FBIS DAILY REPORT

MIDDLE EAST & SOUTH ASIA REVIEW

13 FEBRUARY 1985

Reaction to PLO-Jordanian Agreement

Israeli Prime Minister Shim'on Peres responded to the news of the agreement in Amman by stressing that Israel should wait patiently and not react "nervously" pending clarification of the content of the agreement, according to remarks broadcast by IDF radio. He subsequently asserted in a statement broadcast by Jerusalem radio that the agreement "can hardly be called a peace proposal" if it does not renounce terror, does not recognize Israel, and suggests a "dictate" on one side. Nevertheless, Peres reaffirmed his government's willingness to carefully consider any peace proposal submitted by Jordanian King Husayn. Israeli Defense Minister Yitzhaq Rabin also commented on Husayn's agreement with PLO Executive Committee Chairman Yasir 'Arafat, asserting that Husayn apparently "gave in" to 'Arafat, who has not indicated any readiness to accept UN Security Council Resolution 242 or renounce terrorism, IDF radio noted.

Following the Husayn-'Arafat agreement, the PLO representative in Amman confirmed that the PLO still rejects Resolution 242 "as a whole," according to Radio Monte Carlo, though he pointed out that 242 includes "some positive points" such as the inadmissibility of acquiring land through force. Commenting on the agreement, Baghdad Voice of PLO radio acknowledged that there is no "complete identity" of views between the PLO and Jordan but contended that the points of agreement are "more important" than the differences. The radio emphasized that the move "does not constitute a retreat from the objectives of the phased Palestinian national program" and it also echoed 'Arafat's view that the PLO-Jordanian agreement must be endorsed by a broader Arab agreement. Without directly mentioning King Fahd's current U.S. visit, the radio expressed skepticism about the credibility of "the current Arab political move" which is taking place "outside the conflict with the enemy" and it called on Arab countries to "review" their relations with the United States if they "really want to prove their credibility." Before returning to Tunis, 'Arafat stressed that he expects no change in the Reagan administration's policy toward the Palestine issue, the radio also noted.

In Damascus, Palestinian groups including the PFLP and DFLP condemned the 'Arafat-Husayn agreement and the Syrian papers *AL-THAWRAH* and *TISHRIN* viewed it as a conspiracy akin to the Camp David accords, according to SANA. Meanwhile, King Husayn discussed the Palestine issue during talks with President Chadli Bendjedid in Algiers, Amman radio reported. In another development affecting the PLO, Libya's Voice of Greater Arab Homeland radio announced that discussions between Colonel Mu'ammar al-Qadhdhafi and visiting Palestinian National Alliance commanders focused on ways to unify the Palestinian resistance and escalate the armed struggle against "the opposing alliance."

Iran-Iraq Conflict

The Iraqi Air Force attacked a second ship in the Gulf on 12 February, hitting a "very big maritime target" near Khark Island during the evening, a military spokesman announced in a statement broadcast by Baghdad radio.

The Iraqi communique for 12 February, broadcast by Baghdad radio, claimed that the Iraqis killed 103 Iranians and destroyed 3 tanks in these operations. Iran's communique, reported by IRNA, asserted that around 100 Iraqis were killed or wounded in fighting the previous day, with the heaviest clashes occurring on the fronts in Bakhtaran and Ilam.

Iraq

President Saddam Husayn has signed a decree granting an amnesty to members of illegal parties and movements including the Al-Da'wah Party and similar groups "who worked for Iran and the regimes allied to it," INA reported. The decree, issued by the Revolution Command Council, promises that sentences and legal measures will be lifted from those covered by the amnesty, who are called on to report to the authorities within a specified period.

Iran

IRNA acknowledged that the Tehran headquarters of the Islamic Revolution Prosecutor's office was attacked by "anti-revolutionaries" on 10 February, but added that no one was injured and little damage was caused.

Meanwhile, in the wake of recent foreign reports of a deterioration in Ayatollah Ruhollah Khomeyni's health, IRNA disclosed that Khomeyni met with various officials on 12 February.

Lebanon

President Amin al-Jumayyil discussed Lebanon, the Middle East, and issues of mutual concern during talks in Damascus with Syrian President Hafiz al-Asad, Damascus television reported. Meanwhile, Beirut radio claimed that Israeli troops killed 2 people and wounded 27 others during a "storming" operation in Tura, a village in the Tyre District. For Israel's part, Jerusalem radio said that two residents were wounded by IDF fire while another was killed when he fell from the roof of a building. The IDF had entered the village to arrest people suspected of involvement in terrorist attacks, the radio noted. Six IDF soldiers were subsequently wounded in an attack on an Israeli post east of Al-Nabatiyah, the radio announced. As for the IDF withdrawal, Jerusalem radio revealed that work is already underway to dismantle installations and camps in the Al-Biqa' valley, which is to be evacuated in the second phase of the withdrawal. In Sidon, Lebanese internal security units are already patrolling the city following the withdrawal of the army of southern Lebanon,

though the IDF will also maintain patrols there until the completion of the first phase of the withdrawal, according to the radio.

Yemen

PDRY — Although KUNA cited an official announcement that former leader 'Abd al-Fattah Isma'il has been appointed secretary general of the YSP Central Committee, Aden radio continued to refer to 'Ali Nasir Muhammad as the holder of this post.

YAR — A Soviet delegation headed by Supreme Soviet Presidium Deputy Chairman Arnold Ryuytel is currently visiting the YAR, Sanaa radio reported.

Egypt

tate security forces in Alexandria have arrested a group of religious extremists led by a doctor who claims that he is the Prophet Muhammad, MENA reported.

Southern Sudan

Sudanese People's Liberation Army (SPLA) fighters killed 46 government soldiers in ambushes carried out in the Lakes Province on 9 February, the clandestine SPLA radio claimed.

FBIS **DAILY REPORT**

CONTENTS

Middle East & Africa

Vol V No 030 *13 February 1985*

MIDDLE EAST & SOUTH ASIA REVIEW i

INTER-ARAB AFFAIRS

'Arafat Meets With Palestinians in Amman *[Baghdad Voice of PLO]* ..... A 1
Returns From Amman *[TAP]* ..... A 1
'Arafat Speaks at Poet's Memorial Meeting *[Algiers Voice of Palestine]* ..... A 1
PLO Radio Examines Jordanian-PLO Agreement ..... A 2
PLO 'Official Source' Discusses Amman Agreement *[Paris Radio Monte Carlo]* ..... A 3
Palestinian Factions Rap Husayn-'Arafat Agreement *[SANA]* ..... A 3
PLO's Al-Yahya Stresses Rejection of Resolution 242 *[Paris Radio Monte Carlo]* ..... A 4
PFLP Condemns Israeli Actions in Occupied Areas *[SANA]* ..... A 4
PLO Radio: Zionist Vehicle Attacked Near Jerusalem ..... A 5
PLO Radio: Zionist Military Patrol Attacked ..... A 5

ARABIAN PENINSULA

GULF AFFAIRS

Arab Sources See Syrian Role in Gulf War Mediation ..... C 1
[Kuwait ARAB TIMES 11 Feb]

BAHRAIN

Journal Sees King Fahd's U.S. Trip As Successful *[SADA AL-USBU' 12 Feb]* ..... C 1

KUWAIT

Further Reportage on Visit of UAE Crown Prince ..... C 1
Official Talks Open 12 Feb ..... C 1
Tours Naval Installations ..... C 2
Court Sentences Two on State Security Charges ..... C 2

SAUDI ARABIA

Crown Prince Receives Bahraini Defense Commander ..... C 2
Riyadh Comments on Importance of Fahd's U.S. Visit ..... C 2

UAE

Singapore Foreign Minister Begins Visit ..... C 3
Mauritanian Official Sends Message to President *[WAKH]* ..... C 3

PDRY

Further Reportage on YSP Central Committee Session ..... C 3
Ex-President Appointed Secretary General ..... C 3
Chairman Holds Meeting With Algerian Official ..... C 3
Chairman Sends Cable to Khamene'i on Anniversary ..... C 3

YAR

Further Reportage on Visit of USSR Delegation ..... C 4
Received by President ..... C 4

Joint Talks Concluded ..... C 4
Delegation Ends Visit *[MENA]* ..... C 4

EGYPT

Members of Religious 'Extremist' Group Arrested ..... D 1
'Abd al-Majid Views Jordanian-PLO Ties, U.S. Visit ..... D 1
Jordan's Al-Fayiz Visits Cairo, Comments on PLO ..... D 2
British Chief of Staff, Delegation Begin Visit ..... D 2
Commentaries View Jordanian-PLO Agreement ..... D 2

IRAQ

President Signs Decree Pardoning Political Dissidents ..... E 1
President Receives Messages From Foreign Leaders ..... E 1
From Egypt's Mubarak ..... E 1
From Kuwaiti Amir ..... E 1
Spokesman Describes 2d Attack on Maritime Target ..... E 1
Armed Forces Issue Communique No 1,740 12 Feb ..... E 1
Housing Minister Confers With Romania's Petre ..... E 2
Turkish Minister of Finance Arrives 12 Feb ..... E 2

JORDAN

Further on Reaction to Agreement With PLO ..... F 1
West Bank, Gaza Reaction *[JORDAN TIMES 13 Feb]* ..... F 1
Pan-Arab Action Needed *[JORDAN TIMES 13 Feb]* ..... F 1
Agreement Begins 'New Stage' *[AL-RA'Y 13 Feb]* ..... F 2
'Arafat Expects No Change in U.S. Policy *[Baghdad Voice of PLO]* ..... F 2
Prince Hasan Receives 2 U.S. Congressmen *[JORDAN TIMES 13 Feb]* ..... F 2
Chief of Staff Receives U.S. Congressman ..... F 3
SAWT AL-SHA'B Interviews USSR Ambassador *[13 Feb]* ..... F 3
Prince Hasan Receives Italian Delegation ..... F 3
Al-Fayiz Makes Statement, Leaves for Egypt ..... F 3
Central Bank Affirms Stance on Foreign Banks *[JORDAN TIMES 13 Feb]* ..... F 3
JORDAN TIMES Praises Bedouin, Tribal Virtues *[13 Feb]* ..... F 4

LEBANON

Al-Jumayyil, Karami End Visit to Damascus *[Voice of Lebanon]* ..... G 1
Further on Clashes With Israeli Forces in Tura ..... G 1
One Killed, Three Wounded *[Voice of Arab Lebanon]* ..... G 1
Resistance Counterattacks ..... G 1
Rockets Used Against Israelis *[Voice of Arab Lebanon]* ..... G 1
Birri Contacts UN, Envoys ..... G 1
Note to UN Planned ..... G 2
Israelis, Lahd Units Complete Sidon Withdrawal ..... G 2
Army Closes Sidon Port ..... G 2
Beirut Denies Al-Huss Assassination Attempt ..... G 2
Briefs: Canadian Grant ..... G 2

SYRIA

Al-Jumayyil Resumes Talks With Al-Asad, Leaves ..... H 1
Masses Will 'Foil' Jordan-PLO Agreement ..... H 1
TISHRIN Calls Agreement 'Treason' ..... H 1

ISRAEL

Shim'on Peres Reacts to Husayn-'Arafat Agreement ..... I 1
Unclear on Agreement ..... I 1

Rejects PLP-'Arafat Meeting ..... I 1
'Hardly' Peace Proposal ..... I 1
Officials, Press View Jordan-PLO Agreement ..... I 1
Rabin on Initiative ..... I 1
Levi Remarks on Agreement ..... I 1
Reaction From Territories ..... I 2
Settlers, MK's on Agreement *[MA'ARIV 12 Feb]* ..... I 2
Further on MK's Meeting With Yasir 'Arafat ..... I 2
PLP's Mi'ari Details Meeting ..... I 2
Arnon on PLO Goals *['AL HAMISHMAR 12 Feb]* ..... I 2
Rabin Addresses Knesset on Withdrawal, Terrorism ..... I 3
Further on Rabin Address ..... I 3
Knesset Committee Votes on Lebanon Withdrawal ..... I 4
Rabin Visits IDF Position Overlooking Sidon ..... I 4
Second Phase of IDF Withdrawal From Lebanon Begins ..... I 4
IDF Replaces Army of Southern Lebanon in Sidon ..... I 4
ASL Soldiers Desert in Wake of IDF Withdrawal ..... I 4
Swedish Defense Minister on UNIFIL Role ..... I 5
1984 Data on Incidents in Lebanon Released *[DAVAR 12 Feb]* ..... I 5
IDF Carries Out Arrests in Tyre Area ..... I 5
Chief of Staff Warns Village of 'Strangers' ..... I 5
Report Discloses Syrian Army Data *[THE JERUSALEM POST 13 Feb]* ..... I 5
Peres Says Settlement Near Hebron Not Approved ..... I 6
Hebron Settlers Banned From Qiryat Arba' Elections *['AL HAMISHMAR 12 Feb]* ..... I 7
SHAS 'Might' Support Territorial Compromise ..... I 7
Drop in Foreign Citizens' Deposits Noted *[HA'ARETZ 12 Feb]* ..... I 7
Knesset Finance Committee Approves Travel Tax Hike ..... I 7
More Funds Allocated to Religious Institutions ..... I 7

NORTH AFRICA

ALGERIA

Further Reportage on Visit of Jordan's Husayn ..... Q 1
Talks Begin ..... Q 1
Further on Talks *[Amman]* ..... Q 1
French Official Interviewed on Results of Talks ..... Q 1
Communique Issued on Ghanaian Leader's Visit ..... Q 1
Messaadia Holds Talks With Jospin, Mitterand *[cross-reference]* ..... Q 2

LIBYA

Al-Qadhdhafi Meets Palestinian Commanders ..... Q 2
Egyptian Afro-Asian Committee Departs 12 Feb ..... Q 2
Joint Statement Issued ..... Q 2

MOROCCO

Polish Trade Official Arrives for Talks ..... Q 3
Confers With Prime Minister ..... Q 4

SUDAN

Foreign Minister 'Uthman Addresses Assembly ..... Q 4
SPLA Radio Reports 46 Soldiers Killed in Ambushes ..... Q 5

TUNISIA

President Receives Messages From Sudan, Angola ..... Q 5

WESTERN SAHARA

Communique Issued on Hassan's 'Masquerade' *[Algiers]* ..... Q 5

EAST AFRICA

ETHIOPIA

Mengistu Haile Mariam Addresses Nation 9 Feb ..... R 1
Addresses Addis Ababa Rally ..... R 8
Decree on Citizens' 'Special' Contributions ..... R 9
PMAC on Contributions ..... R 12

KENYA

Disturbances at University of Nairobi ..... R 14
Students Dispersed ..... R 14
No Presidential Directive Involved ..... R 14
Most Classes Resume ..... R 14
Government Statement ..... R 14

SOMALIA

Siad Barre Addresses National People's Assembly ..... R 15
Samantar on Saudi Relations, Regional Issues *[Jeddah 'UKAZ 6 Feb]* ..... R 16
Radio Halgan: Rebels Kill 82, Wound 89 Soldiers ..... R 17

UGANDA

Briefs: New Envoy From Rwanda ..... R 17

CENTRAL AFRICA

CHAD

Habre Addresses Zaire-Trained Commandos in Abeche ..... S 1

WEST AFRICA

Entente Council Head of State Summit Begins ..... T 1

BURKINA

Sankara Departs for Summit in Ivory Coast ..... T 1

GHANA

Rawlings Returns From 3-Day Visit to Algeria ..... T 1

GUINEA-BISSAU

Vieira Comments Before Departing for Sao Tome Summit *[PANA]* ..... T 1

IVORY COAST

Kerekou, Eyadema, Kountche Arrive for Summit ..... T 1
Explosion Reported at Entente Talks Site ..... T 2

LIBERIA

Doe Criticizes MOJA, Former PPP Members ..... T 2

MALI

Envoys Deliver Leaders' Messages to Traore ..... T 2

NIGER

Kountche Receives Congolese Minister, Relief Grant ..... T 2
President Kountche Receives FRG Delegation ..... T 2

NIGERIA

Idiagbon on IMF Loan, Detained Canadians ..... T 3
Congolese Minister Meets Buhari, Discusses Chad ..... T 3

SOUTHERN AFRICA

ANGOLA

Guinea Bissau, Cape Verde Presidents Visit ..... U 1

MADAGASCAR

Joint Commission Meeting With Italy Opens ..... U 1

MOZAMBIQUE

Delegates at Sao Tome Meeting on Rebel Aid, Cease-Fire ..... U 1
Portuguese Aid to Renamo *[Lisbon]* ..... U 1
Islamic Help for Rebels *[Lisbon]* ..... U 2
Cease-Fire Rumors Denied ..... U 2

SOUTH AFRICA

R.F. Botha Confirms Holding Talks With Savimbi ..... U 2

SWAZILAND

Finance Minister Delivers Budget Speech ..... U 2

ZAMBIA

Kaunda Comments on Mideast, African Problems *[MENA]* ..... U 3

'Arafat Meets With Palestinians in Amman

JN121932 Baghdad Voice of PLO in Arabic 1618 GMT 12 Feb 85

[Text] Upon his arrival in Amman yesterday, brother leader Abu 'Ammar [Yasir 'Arafat] held a meeting which was attended by Brother Abu Jihad [Khalil al-Wazir], deputy commander in chief of the Palestinian forces; Shaykh 'Abd al-Hamid al-Sa'ih, PNC speaker; Hani al-Hasan, Fatah Central Committee member; and Jawid al-Ghusayn, PLO Executive Committee member. Our radio correspondent learned that during the meeting they discussed all developments in the Palestinian arena and the formula of the Palestinian-Jordanian joint move.

Abu 'Ammar then presided over a mini-meeting of the PLO Executive Committee. The meeting was attended by the Executive Committee members who were in Amman.

Returns From Amman

LD121816 Tunis TAP in French 1320 GMT 12 Feb 85

[Text] Tunis, 12 Feb (TAP) — PLO Executive Committee Chairman Yasir 'Arafat returned to Tunis from Amman today at the end of a 2-day visit to Jordan. This was learned from a Palestinian source in the Tunisian capital.

Talks between the head of the Palestinian organization, King Husayn, and high-ranking Jordanian officials were sanctioned by a Jordanian-Palestinian agreement on joint action on the international scene and solving the Middle East crisis.

It is reported that the agreement, announced today by 'Arafat, shortly before his departure from Amman, constitutes the successful outcome of lengthy discussions and concerted actions between Palestinian and Jordanian leaders.

'Arafat Speaks at Poet's Memorial Meeting

LD131103 Algiers Voice of Palestine in Arabic 1702 GMT 12 Feb 85

[Excerpts] A few days ago, Brother Commander Abu 'Ammar [Yasir 'Arafat] attended a eulogy for Palestinian martyr poet Mu'in Busaysu and delivered an important speech. He began by recalling the many times he spent with Busaysu. They are memories of the revolution, the struggle, and the long march.

Abu 'Ammar said: We are passing through difficult historic times. Our destiny is to coexist with these sufferings and difficulties. However, I want to say that we are implementing the decision of the PNC to escalate military action against the Zionist enemy. Abu 'Ammar pointed out that for the first time the Zionists have admitted the role the Palestinians played in these operations. He added: I am saying this because the Zionist enemy is now surrounding our Palestinian camps in retaliation for the fedayeen operations, particularly those carried out by our revolutionaries among the joint Lebanese-Palestinian forces a few days ago at the Burj al-Shamali camp. This prompted the enemy to storm the camp for 2 days.

Abu 'Ammar said: I am now disclosing these matters because the Arab information media tried to suppress these facts as part of the campaign of slander and strikes against the Palestinians and have claimed that the revolution is 4,000 km away from the frontline. However, I say: When we were in Tripoli, we faced a dual blockade. Then we left Tripoli after having departed from Beirut. Who then, was the Arab Sharon who forced me out of Tripoli?

Abu 'Ammar recalled the plots hatched against the Palestine revolution since our departure from Beirut. He said: The dagger that stabbed us this time was that of our brothers. They tried to complete what Sharon failed to accomplish in Beirut instead of trying to bandage the wounds of the Palestine revolution.

Abu 'Ammar added: These daggers are not Arab at all, because they came from a regime that became an agent for U.S. imperialism and for its representative, Zionism, just as the Sadat regime was an agent of U.S. imperialism and a Zionist agent. Abu 'Ammar then spoke of what he called the draw imposed by the Arabs during the 1973 war with the Zionist enemy. He said the Arabs did not score a victory in this war, but scored a draw from which our Soviet friends and allies subsequently succeeded in wresting the American-Soviet joint statement of 1 October 1977. For the first time this contained an American concession represented by recognition of the legitimate rights of the Palestine people and its representative.

Abu 'Ammar added: We were preparing ourselves to preserve the political military draw that was established between the Arabs and the Zionist enemy, which is an extension and an ally of U.S. imperialism in our Arab area. Abu 'Ammar affirmed that the Palestine revolution was stabbed twice: first, when Al-Sadat stabbed us in the back by visiting occupied Jerusalem and beginning the Camp David talks, thus robbing the Arabs of their victory. Sinai returned to us but with incomplete sovereignty and a rule which, according to the Zionist line of thought, is worse than the Zionist occupation itself.

Abu 'Ammar said: Since then we have fought long and hard battles. After this ordeal, I affirmed that the strategic depth of the Palestine revolution extends from Tyre to Khorassan. However, I still recall what late Yugoslav President Josip Broz Tito told me when I visited him accompanied by Brother Abu al-Lutf on 5 December 1974. He said that when he had met a few days earlier with U.S. Secretary of State Henry Kissinger, Kissinger affirmed that the Rabat conference resolutions turned American calculations upside down and he threatened that he could not allow such a situation in the Middle East, in light of the American calculations.

In recalling these facts, I wish to affirm that the Zionist enemy would not have dared to commit aggression if it had not been for the Iraqi-Iranian war which prevented our prowess being used against our enemy. It would not have been possible to take on the Palestine revolution alone if Camp David had not taken place and Egypt departed.

Abu 'Ammar said that allowing the Palestine revolution to be tackled alone was the second crime committed against it. The first crime was Camp David.

He said the second crime was implemented and signed by Hafiz al-Asad. I do not say this because of my differences with him or animosity toward him. What I am saying can be found recorded in the secret dossiers of the Arab League and the Fes Arab summit conference. President al-Asad said at this summit in front of the Arab kings and presidents that they told him the Zionist invasion reached 45 km inside Lebanon. It is my right here to ask: Who were those who told him that? How can he accept this from them? I wish to point out here that our Palestinian forces were the ones which took up positions within these 45 km.

Abu 'Ammar added: This is not all. On 10 June 1982, a cease-fire was reached between Syria and the Zionist enemy. The Syrian regime and some others said that the Palestine revolution would surrender 2-3 days later, but they were wrong. The revolution and its Lebanese allies, despite the withdrawal of the agent forces from the battle, has recorded and continues to record the most heroic pages of heroism for the Arab nation in its modern history against the Zionist enemy. Brother Abu 'Ammar stressed that the joint Lebanese-Palestinian forces, when fighting the battles of Beirut and Lebanon, were in fact confronting America through its agent Israel. Let me recall here, Abu 'Ammar said, what U.S. Defense Secretary Weinberger said during his visit to the Zionist entity following the departure of the revolution from Beirut. He saluted the Israeli army because it gave him and his experts an opportunity to test their strategic military weapons which had not been put to use until that time. Brother Abu 'Ammar said that the Palestinian revolution lost 72,000 martyrs and wounded during that war and the figure rose to 85,000 following the Tripoli battles. He added: I recall this in order to answer those who claim that the Palestinian revolution has abandoned the armed struggle.

Brother Abu 'Ammar then referred to the terrorist operation carried out by the Zionist enemy 3 months before the convening of the PNC when they bombed one of the prisons of the Syrian regime's agents in the Al-Biqa' where 82 men — cadres and commanders of the Palestinian revolution forces — were being detained. They were all martyred. The blackout imposed by the Arab press on this incident [word indistinct] which was regarded as pressure being brought to bear on the Palestinian leadership to prevent the convening of the PNC at that time. He wondered: Why did all this take place? He reaffirmed by saying that the American master wanted it because the master belived that the Palestinian leadership would go down on its knees. Brother Abu 'Ammar recalled the raid on Jalil camp which led to the martyrdom of 129 fighters, children, women, and old men. He reaffirmed that the Damascus regime did not respond to these raids, in order to preserve the fig leaf that it covers its nakedness. He pointed out that the Palestinian revolution will not forgive those who stabbed it or who tried to implement the anti-Palestinian American decision, which even Israel could not implement. He added: I would like to say that the Syrian people cannot keep patient for long.

Brother Abu 'Ammar concluded his speech by mourning martyr Mu'in Busaysu and all the martyrs of our Palestinian people. He reaffirmed the will to continue along the path of struggle. [passage indistinct]

PLO Radio Examines Jordanian-PLO Agreement

JN121821 Baghdad Voice of PLO in Arabic 1640 GMT 12 Feb 85

[Political editor's dispatch]

[Text] In its sessions, the PNC was not speaking from a vacuum when it asserted that Jordanian-Palestinian relations are historic and distinguished and call for more development and progress in all spheres. In more than one session, and on this basis, the PNC decided there is a need for Palestinian-Jordanian action to achieve the joint objectives of the cause and to establish a confederation between Jordan and the independent Palestinian state. [words indistinct]

Those on both sides of the Jordan River were known as the inhabitants of east or West Bank. The strong relations between the Jordanians and Palestinians call on both sides to develop and consolidate these relations and present a firm basis for confidence in dealing with each other — confidence that the joint move is aimed at achieving the interests of both fraternal peoples, and that clarity and frankness in the Palestinian-Jordanian dialogue in all spheres are aimed at achieving a better formula for the joint move, entrenching its strategic principles, providing a joint understanding of the meaning, importance, and objective need of the move, and defining its objectives accurately.

Out of the frankness and clarity we have emphasized, we must always stress that any political move should be solidly based on practical points enabling it to impose its conditions, views, and opinions. Regarding the Palestinian-Jordanian joint political move, it should be solidly based on three levels: the Palestinian situation, the Palestinian-Arab situation, and the Arab-international situation.

Regarding the first level, the internal Palestinian situation requires a more consolidated structure. By holding the 17th session of the PNC, the PLO took a big step in this respect. This was reflected positively by the general Palestinian situation, particularly in the main arena of conflict inside the occupied homeland, which is witnessing an escalation of struggle against the Zionist occupation. This situation makes Palestinian political action stronger and more influential. Thus the Palestinian leadership moves with firm confidence within the phased Palestinian national program and work to achieve its objectives.

Regarding the Palestinian-Arab situation, Palestinian-Arab relations are stable except, of course, Palestinian-Syrian relations; the Syrian regime insists on undermining these relations through its continued conspiracy against the PLO and its insistence on destroying it. We can also say that Palestinian-Arab relations should be clarified by the Arab side. The Arab side should clarify its stand on support for the struggle of our people and for the PLO, the leader of their struggle. The Arab side should clarify the reality of intentions to fulfill its plan for a just peace. In other words, the requirements of the just peace option should be attained. These requirements are also needed for the military option. Without them, talk about peace and achieving peace will remain subject to doubts. Such talk will be considered proof of Arab failure and inability to support confrontation and continuing struggle.

To be more clear, we can say that the current Arab political move, which some claim is aimed at achieving a just political solution, is carried out by one party without depending on practical points that give it the required credibility. This move is taking place outside the conflict with the enemy. Consequently, the regional balance of power will remain in favor of the enemy. This situation will not make any changes in the stands of the forces that are involved in the conflict, particularly the Zionist enemy and its strategic ally, the United States.

This level leads us to the third level: Arab international relations. We assert that these relations — and we mean Arab-U.S. relations — are not between equals and involve a framework of subservience. Washington does not hesitate to look at Arab interests as if they do not represent a real issue as long as its interests are not exposed to threats by the Arab side. Washington's stand on the Palestine cause remains one of hostility which is encouraged by Arab failure.

The Arab countries should review their relations with the United States if they really want to prove their credibility in seeking a just peace in the region. The Arab countries should realize that dialogue with the U.S. Administration on this topic without reconsidering these relations — this means dialogue with the U.S. Administration within the framework of conflict — should necessarily mean providing materialistic requirements for the military option [sentence as heard]. The Arab stand should be unified and differences and secondary disputes removed.

It is obvious that great and distinguished efforts are needed. We believe that the Palestinian-Jordanian joint move bears this responsibility. This move recognizes that there is a need to achieve a solid basis on these three levels. In other words, the Palestinian-Jordanian agreement must be based on a broader agreement — an Arab agreement that will seek an international determinationthat will support just peace plans, particularly, the Fes plan and an international peace conference. It should be clear and understood that this move should continue to adhere to the strategic principles from which it stems and it tries to achieve. It should also be clear and understood that this move does not constitute a retreat from the objectives of the phased Palestinian national program, nor does it oppose it.

We, in the PLO, continue dialogue with Jordan on this basis and build conditions of agreement on the joint move. Let it be known that the agreement does not in any way mean complete unanimity; there might be differences on any given point. These differences will be secondary while the dialogue continues to reach a better formula for the final agreement.

We are fully aware that identity is not a practical matter, especially between a revolution and a state. We are also aware that differences do not mean rupture as long as points of agreement are more accurate, more important, and more numerous than the points of differences. Therefore, the Palestinian-Jordanian dialogue continues.

The Palestinian-Jordanian joint move is a short-term necessity. The move should continue on this basis. In order to achieve its objectives, the move should provide all the required components on the Palestinian, Arab, and international levels. Then it will be the suitable time for the joint political move to continue stronger and more capable to impose its will and conditions in order to achieve its just and legitimate objectives which will guarantee our people's rights to return, self-determination, and establishment of an independent Palestinian state under the PLO, the sole legitimate representative of our Palestinian people.

PLO 'Official Source' Discusses Amman Agreement

JN121856 Paris Radio Monte Carlo in Arabic 1730 GMT 12 Feb 85

[Text] A statement issued today in Tunis by a responsible official source in the PLO says: Following the visit by Palestinian leader Yasir 'Arafat to Amman and his meeting with King Husayn and senior state and government officials in the presence of several members of the PLO Executive Committee and Fatah Central Committee, an agreement was reached with Jordan to proceed together to achieve a just and comprehensive solution in the Middle East. This is based on both sides' commitment to the Fes Arab summit and UN resolutions concerning the Middle East and the Palestinian question and in harmony with the PNC resolutions concerning the distinguished relationship between the fraternal Jordanian and Palestinian peoples.

Meanwhile, the Fatah Central Committee held a meeting following Abu 'Ammar's [Yasir 'Arafat] return from Amman today and discussed the results of the Palestinian leader's talks in the Jordanian capital. The Fatah Revolutionary Council will hold a meeting tomorrow.

Finally, the Palestinian leader today received the Soviet ambassador in Tunis, who conveyed an official message from the Soviet leadership.

Palestinian Factions Rap Husayn-'Arafat Agreement

JN121516 Damascus SANA in Arabic 1415 GMT 12 Feb 85

[Text] Damascus, 12 FEB (SANA) — Campaigns of condemnation and denunciation have escalated against the agreement between Yasir 'Arafat and King Husayn — an agreement that encourages and makes it easy for the Jordanian regime to reach a capitulatory settlement at the expense of the Palestinian people's national rights.

Through its Secretary General Nayif Hawatimah, the Democratic Front for the Liberation of Palestine asserted its condemnation of the agreement and described it as a violation of the PLO national program and the PNC resolutions. In a press statement published today, Hawatimah said the agreement does not bind the Palestinian people, the PLO, or its national factions and forces.

In its comment on the agreement reached in the 'Arafat-Husayn talks, the PFLP said the agreement shows the deviant rightist involvement in the plans of relinquishment and its insistence on the destructive and divisionist course, especially since the agreement came after King Husayn repeatedly announced that he rejects any joint Jordanian-Palestinian move unless it is based on his initiative.

An official source in the PFLP called for fighting the agreement. It asserted the need and importance of a move by Palestinian national and progressive forces as soon as possible to establish a broad Palestinian national front capable of confronting and burying the deviant course and providing the conditions and principles for regaining the PLO's unity on a firm and solid national basis.

The Popular Liberation War Vanguard's organization, Al-Sa'iqah, also condemned the agreement, calling it a violation and betrayal of the objectives of the Palestinian national struggle and a renunciation of armed struggle.

Farhan Abu al-Hayja', the official spokesman of Al-Sa'iqah, said in a press statement today that this agreement is the beginning of a reactionary onslaught against the progressive, nationalist forces; this onslaught is headed by steadfast Syria, which is firmly confronting U.S. and Zionist conspiracies. It is also the beginning of the Camp David and autonomy conspiracy through the Jordanian regime, which is capitalizing on the Palestine question.

Abu al-Hayja' pointed out that the agreement is based on the Jordanian king's initiative before the nonnational Palestinian meeting in Amman and also on Resolution 242, which disavows Palestinian national rights and the Palestinian question. Abu al-Hayja' affirmed that 'Arafat's move is a gift to all the defeatists and those who still believe that the United States will heed their solicitations. The uncommitted, Abu al-Hayja' added, must understand that the Palestinian rightwing has betrayed the cause and joined the opposition forces.

Abu al-Hayja' called on the masses of Palestinian Arab people and on the Arab nation as well as their liberation forces to rise up and topple this new chapter in the Camp David conspiracy which is being carried out through the Jordanian regime and authorized by 'Arafat.

He also called upon the masses to rally around revolutionary Syria under the leadership of struggler President Hafiz al-Asad, who confronts all reactionary liquidation conspiracies and stands as a solid barrier against the enemies of the Palestinian Arab people and their cause.

The Palestinian Popular Struggle Front [PPSF] also condemned the Husayn-'Arafat agreement signed in Amman yesterday. It affirmed that this agreement is a threat not only to the Palestine question, but also to the entire Arab struggle.

Khalid 'Abd al-Majid, member of the PPSF Political Bureau, said in a statement distributed here today that the agreement is a violation of the Palestinian National Charter and the PNC resolutions. It provides a full cover for the Jordanian regime, which wants to liquidate the Palestine question and abort Palestinian national struggle.

'Abd al-Majid called on the Palestinian Arab people and all Palestinian national forces to close ranks and form a broad national front in order to save the PLO and regain its unity as well as confront all dangers threatening the Palestine question.

PLO's Al-Yahya Stresses Rejection of Resolution 242

JN121253 Paris Radio Monte Carlo in Arabic 1200 GMT 12 Feb 85

[Fu'ad Na'im dispatch from Amman]

[Excerpt] 'Abd al-Razzaq al-Yahya, PLO Executive Committee member and the PLO representative in Amman, has stressed that the PLO rejects UN Security Council Resolution 242 as a whole. However, he said that the PLO agrees to implement all the other UN resolutions that have been issued on the Palestine question since 1948.

'Abd al-Razzaq al-Yahya pointed out that 242 includes some positive points, such as the nonacquisition of land by force. This statement constitutes the first Palestinian comment on the essence of the announcement of a Palestinian-Jordanian agreement on a formula for joint action to achieve a just solution to the Palestine question. This formula is supposed to have focused on King Husayn's proposals to the Palestinians, in which he called on the PLO to recognize Resolution 242 and to work together for a just solution within the framework of an international conference. However, the details of this agreement have not so far been announced in Amman — an agreement that would reactivate the Middle East issue in international forums.

We have also learned that the PLO and Jordan will form joint delegations to explain the essence of the new agreement to the Arab leaders.

PFLP Condemns Israeli Actions in Occupied Areas

JN121426 Damascus SANA in Arabic 1350 GMT 12 Feb 85

[Text] Damascus, 12 Feb (SANA) — The PFLP has reiterated its call to Palestinian national and progressive forces to hasten and lay down the bases to solve the Palestinian revolution crisis, regain the PLO's unity on a solid and national basis, and to revitalize the national front in the occupied territory in order to confront the Zionists' repressive measures. A press statement issued today discussed the situation in the Arab and Palestinian arenas, particularly the escalation of Zionist measures against Arab citizens in the occupied territory, especially in Al-Duhayshah camp and the Ramallah area. The PFLP Political Bureau expressed its belief that these measures fall within the framework of the Zionist scheme aimed at forcing our masses in the occupied territory to their knees and killing the spirit of resistance in order to devour the territory after emptying it of its people and subjugating those who are left.

In its statement, the PFLP Political Bureau urged democratic and progressive forces on all levels to move for solidarity with the struggle of the Palestinian people and to support them in the just battle they are waging against the Zionist racist occupiers.

The statement added: As the Political Bureau greets the heroic stand of our Palestinian masses in the occupied homeland, particularly our masses in Al-Duhayshah camp who have been waging continued resistance battles for months, it asserts the PFLP's determination to escalate its resistance inside the occupied homeland through various methods.

PLO Radio: Zionist Vehicle Attacked Near Jerusalem

JN122020 Baghdad Voice of PLO in Arabic 1618 GMT 12 Feb 85

[Text] In accordance with the revolution command's instructions and decisions to escalate armed struggle inside the occupied homeland, the main arena of conflict, a Palestinian military spokesman has announced that a group of our revolutionaries attacked a Zionist military vehicle near the settlement of Ma'ale Adummin, east of Jerusalem, on the road to Jericho. The attack resulted in the destruction of the Zionist vehicle and wounding the Zionist soldiers in it.

A Zionist military spokesman admitted our revolutionaries' attack but, as usual, declined to mention losses. He said his forces carried out a large-scale immediate search and arrested a large number of Palestinian citizens on the pretext of having connections with the operation.

PLO Radio: Zionist Military Patrol Attacked

JN122026 Baghdad Voice of PLO in Arabic 1618 GMT 12 Feb 85

[Text] Palestinian-Lebanese joint forces used machineguns and rockets to attack a Zionist military patrol near the township of (Al-Batt) in Tyre District in occupied southern Lebanon last night. The attack resulted in one military vehicle destroyed, another damaged, and the occupants of both killed or wounded.

Men from the joint forces also attacked a Zionist position in the same area yesterday. The attack, in which rockets were used, resulted in the killing or wounding of a number of Zionist soldiers.

A Zionist military spokesman admitted the two operations, but, as usual, declined to mention losses. He said his forces besieged the area and launched a large-scale search-and-arrest campaign to uncover the joint forces men, but without success.

GULF AFFAIRS

Arab Sources See Syrian Role in Gulf War Mediation

GF121112 Kuwait ARAB TIMES in English 11 Feb 85 pp 1, 5

[Excerpts] Arab diplomatic sources in Damascus said today that Syria will play a major role in mediation efforts to end the Gulf war, and they said President Hafiz al-Asad may visit Tehran.

The sources said GCC envoys who recently visited Damascus for talks with President al-Asad on the Gulf war, found the president "understanding and responsive." They said once Al-Asad was sworn in for another term in office and a new Syrian government was formed, Syria would come to the fore in peace efforts. [passage omitted]

Meanwhile, a Lebanese magazine, *AL-NAHAR AL-'ARABI WA AL-DUWALI*, has said that the current GCC moves were the result of a secret decision taken at the fifth Gulf summit in Kuwait in November.

The magazine quoted sources as saying that the Gulf states had called on Syria to stop the supply of arms, both directly and indirectly, to Iran. The Gulf states believe that Iran would become more amenable to peace negotiations if its supplies of arms and spare parts were cut off, they said.

These sources said Shaykh Sabah's visit to Syria was "positive" regarding relations between Damascus and the Gulf states, but that President al-Asad had differing views regarding his country's support for Iran and the solution to Arab disputes. They said Shaykh Sabah was told that Syria was against any Arab truce that involved the go-ahead for "suspicious" projects. These included King Husayn's peace initiative, the return of Egypt to the Arab fold without abrogating the Camp David accords, or any settlement that denied the legal rights of the Palestinians.

BAHRAIN

Journal Sees King Fahd's U.S. Trip As Successful

GF121424 Manama SADA AL-USBU' in Arabic 12 Feb 85 p 3

[Untitled editorial]

[Text] Many Arab leaders have visited the United States and have met with U.S. President Ronald Reagan. Of course, these leaders placed at top of their agenda two issues occupying the Arab nation: the Iraq-Iran war and the Palestinian issue.

The visit which His Majesty King Fahd ibn 'Abd al-'Aziz of Saudi Arabia is currently making to the United States is the most important visit ever made by an Arab leader because of the distinguished relations linking the Kingdom and the Saudi monarch with the United States and because Saudi Arabia has so much influence in Arab and international arenas.

Those who followed the Arab leaders' visits to the White House and their talks with the U.S. President were always greatly disappointed because the United States never gave any indication that it was able to free itself from the Zionist lobby. These leaders knew that the White House President was always more concerned with the Israeli interests than the Israeli leaders themselves.

The Saudi monarch's visit, which the Arabs are following with great attention and concern, may succeed in moving the U.S. President from his traditional stand and may open new horizons that will take it outside the Zionist lobby's sphere of influence.

This is the least the Arabs hope will take place, although they know that such a move is nearly impossible because of the nature of U.S.-Israeli links, which are about to rise to a level of holiness. Nevertheless, we will be optimistic; perhaps our hopes will come true.

KUWAIT

Further Reportage on Visit of UAE Crown Prince

Official Talks Open 12 Feb

LD121226 Kuwait KUNA in English 1005 GMT 12 Feb 85

[Text] Kuwait, Feb 12 (KUNA) — Official talks opened Tuesday [12 February] between the United Arab Emirates delegation, led by Abu Dhabi crown prince and deputy supreme commander of the UAE Armed Forces, Shaykh Khalifah ibn Zayid Al Nuhayyan and the Kuwait's side headed by H.H. the crown prince and prime minister, Shaykh Sa'd al-'Abdallah al-Sabah.

The talks, held at the Council of Ministers this morning, dealt with bilateral relations and means of boosting them in various fields in addition to improving joint work within the framework of the Gulf Cooperation Council states and issues of mutual concern. The meeting was held in a friendly and brotherly atmosphere and the two parties shared identical views.

The Kuwaiti team to the meeting included Deputy Premier, Foreign and Information Minister Shaykh Sabah al-Ahmad al-Sabah; State Minister for Cabinet Affairs 'Abd al-'Aziz Husayn; Defense Minister and head of the honorary mission Shaykh Salim al-Sabah; Interior Minister Shaykh Nawwaf al-Ahmad; Chief of Staff Major General 'Abdallah Faraj al-Ghanim; Foreign Ministry undersecretary Rashid al-Rashid; Information Ministry undersecretary Shaykh Nasir Muhammad al-Ahmad; Kuwait ambassador to UAE Qasim al-Yaqut; and General Director of the Crown Prince and Prime Minister's Office 'Abd al-Latif 'Abd al-Rahman al-Bahr.

The UAE delegation to the official talks included Shaykh Hamdan ibn Zayid Al Nuhayyan; personal representative of the president of the UAE Ahmad Khalifah al-Suwaydi; State Minister for Interior Affairs Major General Hammudah ibn 'Ali; State Minister for Foreign Affairs Rashid 'Abdallah; Minister of Labor and Social Affairs Khalifah al-Rumi; Ambassador of the UAE to Kuwait Shaykh Sultan al-Nu'aymi; member of the Executive Council and Undersecretary of the crown prince's

diwan 'Ali ibn Ahmad al-Ta'ir; Chief of Staff Brigadier Muhammad Sa'id al-Badi; and Information and Culture Ministry Undersecretary 'Abdallah al-Nuways.

Shaykh Khalifah and the accompanying delegation arrived here yesterday on a three-day official visit to Kuwait at the invitation of H.H. the Kuwaiti crown prince and prime minister.

Tours Naval Installations

LD122129 Kuwait KUNA in English 1823 GMT 12 Feb 85

[Excerpt] Kuwait, Feb 12 (KUNA) — H.H. the Crown Prince and Premier Shaykh Said al-'Abdallah al-Sabah Tuesday accompanied the Abu Dhabi Crown Prince and Deputy Supreme Commander of the United Arab Emirates Armed Forces Shaykh Khalifah ibn Zayid and the accompanying delegation on an inspection visit of the naval base in Julaya.

Court Sentences Two on State Security Charges

LD131003 Kuwait KUNA in Arabic 0925 GMT 13 Feb 85

[Excerpt] Kuwait, 13 Feb (KUNA) — The State Security Court has sentenced a Kuwaiti and an Iranian to 10 years imprisonment after finding them guilty on a number of charges related to state security. The court, under the chairmanship of Justice Ghazi 'Ubayd al-Sammar, sentenced Mahdi Muhammad Abbas Ghalum, unemployed, to 10 years imprisonment with labor and confiscation of letters seized from him. The court also sentenced Husayn Qadir Sadiqi, an Iranian citizen, to 10 years in jail with labor. He was found guilty of joining a secret group seeking to destroy the basic system by unlawful means; he was found not guilty on other charges.

The court also found Abu al-Hasan Ahmad Salami, Hasan Muhammad 'Abidhi, Abu al-Hasan Muhammad 'Amiri, and Ghulam Abbas 'Ali Akhbar, an Iranian citizen, not guilty of charges attributed to them.

SAUDI ARABIA

Crown Prince Receives Bahraini Defense Commander

LD131145 Riyadh SPA in Arabic 1015 GMT 13 Feb 85

[Text] Riyadh, 13 Feb (SPA) — The viceroy, His Royal Highness Prince 'Abdallah ibn 'Abd al-'Aziz, today received at the National Guard Headquarters His Highness Shaykh Hamad ibn 'Isa Al Khalifah, Bahraini heir apparent and commander of the Bahrain Defense Force and the delegation accompanying him. The meeting was attended by His Royal Highness Prince Sultan ibn 'Abd al-'Aziz, second deputy premier and minister of defense and aviation and inspector general; His Royal Highness Prince Badr ibn 'Abd al-'Aziz, deputy commander of the National Guard; His Royal Highness Prince 'Abd al-Ilah ibn 'Abd al-'Aziz, the governor of Al-Qasim region; and 'Abd al-'Aziz ibn 'Abd al-Muhsin al-Tuwayjiri, assistant deputy commander of the National Guard.

His Highness Shaykh Hamad ibn 'Isa Al Khalifah arrived in Riyadh earlier today. He was welcomed on arrival by His Royal Highness Prince Sultan ibn 'Abd al-'Aziz, second deputy premier, minister of defense and aviation and inspector general; and by a number of officials.

Riyadh Comments on Importance of Fahd's U.S. Visit

LD122047 Riyadh Domestic Service in Arabic 1130 GMT 12 Feb 85

[From the "Analyses" program by 'Abdallah Burhan 'Abdallah]

[Excerpt] The visit of King Fahd ibn 'Abd al-'Aziz, monarch of Saudi Arabia, which today enters its second day, is taking place at a time when the Arab region is passing through a dangerous juncture in its history, whose consequences and dimensions go beyond the Arab region affecting international developments and threatening world peace. This strengthens the conviction that the visit of the king, may God preserve him, will center on Arab issues, giving them utmost attention during his talks with the American officials.

King Fahd delivered a comprehensive speech yesterday evening when he was received by the American President on his majesty's arrival at the American White House. The king covered all issues on the Arab and Islamic arenas, as well as the other issues of the world.

Following the official reception held in his honor, King Fahd expressed to the press his confidence in the achievement of positive results through his talks with President Reagan over the problems facing the Arab arena and the attainment of beneficial results for the area and for our common interests.

It is evident from the various political [words indistinct] that King Fahd ibn 'Abd al-'Aziz's visit has a particular importance, not only for relations between the two countries but also for the situation in the Middle East. This is reflected by the attention shown by political circles on the Arab and international levels in King Fahd's visit, in view of the expected results for peace, security and stability, not only in the Middle East but throughout the world.

In view of this it can be said that the visit of the king to the United States and his meeting with the American President are characterized by Arab and international dimensions and acquire extreme importance due to the importance the Arab role occupies on the Arab, Gulf and international levels.

The importance of the visit is due a number of factors, foremost of which is that it comes at the beginning of another 4-year presidential term for President Reagan; it comes at a time when the Middle East is witnessing important developments following the peace initiative declared by the Arab leaders at their Fes Arab summit conference.

In view of this, the current visit of King Fahd ibn 'Abd al-'Aziz to the United States does not fall within the category of ordinary visits exchanged by the heads of states. It stems from the effective and distinguished role of the Kingdom on the Arab, regional and

international levels and the role of the United States in its capacity as one of the two superpowers. The visit also affirms the dimensions of the Saudi role with regard to the major Arab and Islamic causes of destiny [words indistinct] a peaceful comprehensive solution of the Middle East problem [words indistinct].

From all this it becomes evident to all, that any Saudi move on the various levels takes place within the framework of the Kingdom's well-known, clear foreign policy which is based on the respect of the sovereignty and independence of all the member countries of the international community and consequently [words indistinct].

UAE

Singapore Foreign Minister Begins Visit

GF130714 Abu Dhabi WAM in Arabic 0620 GMT 13 Feb 85

[Text] Abu Dhabi, 13 Feb (WAM) — Singapore Foreign Affairs Minister Suppian Dhanabalan arrived in the country early this morning on a 4-day visit to the UAE within a tour of a number of the region's states.

During this visit, the Singapore foreign minister will hold talks with a number of officials in the UAE on bilateral relations, developments in the Middle East and the Gulf region, and issues of mutual interest.

He was received at the airport by Ya'qub al-Kindi, acting Foreign Ministry under secretary, and a number of Foreign Ministry officials.

Mauritanian Official Sends Message to President

GF121802 Manama WAKH in English 1520 GMT 12 Feb 85

[Text] Abu Dhabi, 12 Feb (WAKH) — UAE President Shaykh Zayid ibn Sultan Al Nuhayyan today received a written message from Colonel Maayouia Ould Ahmed Sid Taya, head of the Military Committee for National Salvation in Mauritania, dealing with bilateral relations.

The message was handed over by Ahmed Ould Minnih, Mauritanian foreign minister and envoy of the Mauritanian president, during an audience with Shaykh Zayid today. The meeting was attended by Shaykh Surur ibn Muhammad, chamberlain of the Presidential Court.

PDRY

Further Reportage on YSP Central Committee Session

Ex-President Appointed Secretary General

LD121946 Kuwait KUNA in Arabic 1820 GMT 12 Feb 85

[Text] Aden, 12 Feb (KUNA) — Former PDRY President 'Abd al-Fattah Isma'il has been appointed secretary general of the YSP Central Committee, the ruling party, it was officially announced in Aden. An official statement said that the appointment of Isma'il to this new post followed 9 days of meetings by the Central Committee.

Isma'il resigned as PDRY president and party secretary general 4 years ago for reasons described at that time as being health-related.

Chairman Holds Meeting With Algerian Official

GF130542 Aden Domestic Service in Arabic 0330 GMT 13 Feb 85

[Excerpt] Brother 'Ali Nasir Muhammad, secretary general of the YSP Central Committee, chairman of the Supreme People's Council Presidium, and chairman of the Council of Ministers, has expressed satisfaction at the development of bilateral relations between the PDRY and the Democratic Republic of Algeria on all levels.

During his meeting yesterday with Brother Mohamed Nabi, member of the Central Council of the Algerian National Liberation Front [FLN] and Algerian minister of labor and vocational training, the brother secretary general stressed confidence that these relations will further develop for the benefit of the mutual goals of the Yemeni and Algerian peoples who struggle for independence and social progress.

During his meeting with the brother secretary general, the Algerian minister delivered to him a verbal message from his brother Chadli Bendjedid, secretary general of the Algerian FLN Party and president of the Democratic and Popular Republic of Algeria.

Chairman Sends Cable to Khamene'i on Anniversary

GF121434 Aden Domestic Service in Arabic 1230 GMT 12 Feb 85

["Text" of congratulatory cable sent by 'Ali Nasir Muhammad, secretary general of the YSP Central Committee, chairman of the Supreme People's Council Presidium, and chairman of the Council of Ministers, to 'Ali Khamene'i, president of the Islamic Republic of Iran, on the occasion of the sixth anniversary of the victory of the Iranian revolution — no date given]

[Text] On the occasion of the sixth anniversary of the victory of the Iranian revolution, I am delighted — on behalf of myself, the people, and the government of the PDRY — to convey to you and through you the most heartfelt congratulations to the fraternal Iranian people, wishing them all progress.

The Iranian revolution is one of the greatest revolutions of this age. It ousted one of the strongest reactionary regimes which banned democracy, committed the ugliest crimes against the Iranian people, and represented an imperialist base in the region against the freedom and progress of the peoples.

We wish you robust health. We wish that your fraternal people would achieve progress. We wish that the relations between our countries will develop further.

YAR

Further Reportage on Visit of USSR Delegation

Received by President

GF121948 Sanaa Domestic Service in Arabic 1700 GMT 12 Feb 85

[Excerpt] Brother Colonel 'Ali 'Abdallah Salih, president of the Republic, commander in chief of the Armed Forces, and secretary general of the General People's Congress, at 1130 today received in his office at the presidential palace the Soviet parliamentary delegation led by Arnold Fedorovich Ryuytel, deputy chairman of the USSR Supreme Soviet Presidium and chairman of the Estonian Supreme Soviet Presidium, who is currently visiting our country.

At the beginning of the meeting he conveyed to the president the greetings of Chairman Konstantin Chernenko and the greetings and good wishes of the Soviet leaders to the Yemeni people for continued progress. The Soviet delegation highly evaluated the achievements of our country in constructing its democratic establishments and its economic and social progress, in addition to the development of accomplishments and the great changes achieved by the glorious 26 September Revolution in various fields in the life of the Yemeni people and under the leadership of Brother Leader 'Ali 'Abdallah Salih.

At the end of the meeting, the president asked the Soviet delegation to convey his greetings to Chairman Konstantin Chernenko and the Soviet leaders.

The meeting was attended by Yusuf al-Shihari, deputy chairman of the Constituent People's Assembly and member of the Standing Committee; 'Abdallah al-Anisi, secretary general of the Constituent People's Assembly; Muhammad al-Ra'di, member of the Constituent People's Assembly; and Ahmad al-'Iryani, under secretary at the Foreign Ministry.

Joint Talks Concluded

GF130514 Sanaa Domestic Service in Arabic 1830 GMT 12 Feb 85

[Text] The parliamentary talks between our country, led by Brother Yusuf al-Shihari, deputy chairman of the Constituent People's Assembly and member of the Standing Committee, and the Soviet Union, led by Arnold Fedorovich Ryuytel, deputy chairman of the USSR Supreme Soviet Presidium and chairman of the Estonian Supreme Soviet Presidium, concluded at the Constituent People's Assembly today.

In a speech delivered at the beginning of the session, Brother al-Shihari expressed satisfaction with the results achieved by the Soviet parliamentary delegation's visit and said that such visits will bolster the cooperation and friendship relations between our two countries. He pointed out that relations between the two countries are deep and have historic roots based on mutual respect and noninterference in each others' domestic affairs. In conclusion, he said that the Soviet parliamentary delegation's visit will further bolster these relations.

On his part, Arnold Fedorovich Ryuytel expressed his extreme admiration for the great accomplishments achieved by the YAR in various fields. He said that during the visits he and his accompanying delegation made to a number of the republic's provinces, he saw these accomplishments with his own eyes. He pointed out that the roads that have been paved on the tops of the mountains; and the various hospitals, clinics, and schools that have been opened in various provinces of the republic, reflect the efforts being exerted by our political leadership, under the leadership of Brother Colonel 'Ali 'Abdallah Salih, president of the Republic, commander in chief of the Armed Forces, and secretary general of the General People's Congress. He highly evaluated these efforts and said that he will convey his impressions to the Soviet leadership and people.

The head of the Soviet parliamentary delegation referred to the relations between the two countries as firm and strong, particularly following the glorious 26 September Revolution. He said that he and his colleagues at the USSR Supreme Soviet Presidium will work to develop and bolster these relations.

After the speeches, the two sides continued their talks. A press statement will be issued at a later time.

Delegation Ends Visit

NC130932 Cairo MENA in Arabic 0725 GMT 13 Feb 85

[Excerpts] Sanaa, 13 Feb (MENA) — A Soviet parliamentary delegation, headed by Arnold Ryuytel, deputy chairman of the Supreme Soviet Presidium and chairman of the Soviet Presidium in the Republic of Estonia, left Sanaa for Moscow today following a 1-week visit to the YAR.

In a pre-departure statement to MENA, Ryuytel affirmed that the Soviet Union is working to bring peace to the Arab area despite sharp differences, particularly regarding a just and comprehensive solution to the Middle East question. Ryuytel emphasized that the Soviet proposals on the Middle East have called for the convocation of an international conference in which all the area's concerned parties would participate, as well as the PLO, the sole, legitimate representative of the Palestinian people.

In statements published in Sanaa today the Soviet official called for a full, unconditional Israeli withdrawal from Lebanon based on the Security Council's well known resolutions.

Members of Religious 'Extremist' Group Arrested
NC121614 Cairo MENA in Arabic 1550 GMT 12 Feb 85

[Text] Alexandria, 12 Feb (MENA) — The state security and intelligence forces in Alexandria have arrested a group of religious extremists led by Dr Salah Burayqi', a physician who owns a private clinic in Alexandria.

MENA has learned that the Supreme State Security Prosecutor's Office has interrogated 31 defendants in this case, including Dr Salah Burayqi'. The prosecutor's office has ordered that 19 defendants be held without bail while 12 others were released on bail and personal recognizance.

The leader of the group, Dr Salah Burayqi', claims that he is the Prophet Muhammad, may God bless him and grant him salvation. He was shown in a photo receiving a revelation from heaven. As part of his extremism, the leader of this group asked: Why do Muslims go to the Hejaz lands to perform hajj rites, while he is in Alexandria? They need only visit him to perform hajj rites.

Dr Burayqi' groups his followers into two classes: The first group he calls loafers [al-sa'alik]. In his view, they are the ones who are still in the first stage, and who attend his weekly meetings in Alexandria. He calls the second group kings [al-muluk] and they are, according to him, those who fully believe that he is the Prophet Muhammad, may God bless him and grant him salvation.

'Abd al-Majid Views Jordanian-PLO Ties, U.S. Visit
NC130613 Cairo Domestic Service in Arabic 2125 GMT 12 Feb 85

[From the "Dialogue With an Official" program: Interview with Foreign Minister Dr 'Ismat 'Abd al-Majid at Paris airport on 11 February — recorded]

[Text] [Unidentified reporter] The first thing we asked his excellency to do was comment on reports about the agreement between Jordan and the PLO on joint moves regarding the Palestinian people's rights.

['Abd al-Majid] Naturally, I am delighted to hear these happy reports, particularly on my arrival in Paris [words indistinct]. That was, in fact, the purpose of Egypt's move. We wanted the Jordanian-Palestinian agreement to constitute an Arab viewpoint on this problem from the parties directly involved: the brother Jordanians and Palestinians. Naturally, I am pleased to hear this report. I wish the Arab cause more success.

[Reporter] Will this help the new move in light of preparations for President Mubarak's visit to the United States?

['Abd al-Majid] I hope so.

[Reporter] Can your excellency tell us what was done during your visit to the United States?

['Abd al-Majid] My visit to Washington began on Thursday with [words indistinct] in one of the U.S. educational institutes on the Middle East. It was attended by [words indistinct]. I then met with the chairman of the House Foreign Relations Committee, and with the committee's members. On the following day, I met with the secretary of state, the vice president, the White House national security adviser, and the U.S. [words indistinct]. My talks continued on Friday and I held other meetings with Shultz and Bush. I then returned to New York and went from there to Paris.

[Reporter] Your excellency met twice with Vice President Bush and with Shultz. Why?

['Abd al-Majid] We could not finish our treatment of all the questions we discussed in one session. This made it necessary to complete our talks which, naturally, touched on some questions relating to the peace process and Egypt's role. At this point, I would like to note the U.S. Administration's appreciation of Egypt's efforts to achieve a just and comprehensive peace in the Middle East.

[Reporter] Before your went to Washington, Roland Dumas, the French minister of external relations, was there. The impressions created by statements made by [words indistinct] that the United States was not very enthusiastic about raising the Middle East question at the present time. Did you get the same impression?

['Abd al-Majid] The French minister of external relations?

[Reporter] Yes.

['Abd al-Majid] No. It was different with me. I came for that purpose. I also wanted to prepare for the president of the Republic's visit, which, God willing, will be made next month. My talks, and those the president will have, dealt with the Middle East problem and bilateral relations. [words indistinct]

[Reporter] [Words indistinct] during your meetings, the talks dealt once again with Europe's role in reactivating the Middle East question. Is there any coordination now between Europe and the United States, and is it possible to speak of a European side, for instance?

['Abd al-Majid] It is clear from the visits made by the president of the Republic to a number of European countries — France, the FRG, Italy, and Greece — that his aim was to (?urge) the European countries to play an active role in giving impetus to the peace process and to cooperate with the United States, since they are allies and have a common interest in a stable regional situation. That is, in fact, why Egypt is making these moves; this is the objective of Egypt's moves.

[Reporter] Can you tell us something about the preparations for the president's visit?

['Abd al-Majid] To the United States?

[Reporter] Yes.

['Abd al-Majid] My visit was undoubtedly to prepare for all the political and economic aspects of his trip. I was accompanied on this visit by Planning Minister Dr Kamal al-Janzuri. He held a

number of meetings, and his talks dealt with all issues. [Words indistinct] during the president's visit the issues will have already been discussed. We hope that they have been decided. That is what we can say.

[Reporter] A final question. Does the embargo on sales of U.S. weapons to the Middle East include Egypt too?

['Abd al-Majid] It includes all Middle Eastern countries because it is now under review by the U.S. Administration. However, those contracts already concluded will be fulfilled. There is a period of stoppage and embargo on the sale of weapons until the study and this review [words indistinct] is completed.

Jordan's Al-Fayiz Visits Cairo, Comments on PLO

NC121650 Cairo MENA in Arabic 1550 GMT 12 Feb 85

[Text] Cairo, 12 Feb (MENA) — 'Akif al-Fayiz, speaker of the Jordanian House of Representatives, arrived in Cairo this afternoon at the head of a 22-member delegation. During his week-long visit to Egypt, Al-Fayiz will meet with President Muhammad Husni Mubarak.

The Jordanian parliamentary delegation will also meet with Prime Minister Kamal Hasan 'Ali, People's Assembly Speaker Dr Rif'at al-Mahjub, and Consultative Assembly Speaker Dr Subhi 'Abd al-Hakim.

In an arrival statement, 'Akif al-Fayiz noted that an agreement has been reached between Jordan's King Husayn and PLO Chairman Yasir 'Arafat to seek Israel's withdrawal from the occupied territories and the Gaza Strip through convening a UN-sponsored international conference. He added that Jordan previously called for such a conference to resolve the Middle East crisis.

Continuing his statement, 'Akif al-Fayiz said that any agreement to find a just solution to the Palestinian problem will take place within the context of the UN Security Council's resolutions, all of which acknowledge the Palestinian people's right to return to their homeland.

Al-Fayiz added that his visit to Egypt will have positive results affecting the Jordanian House of Representatives and the Egyptian People's Assembly.

'Akif al-Fayiz and his delegation were received by People's Assembly Speaker Dr Rif'at al-Mahjub. He said that Egypt will always remember Jordan's struggle during each stage in the development of the Arab cause, particularly the positive and successful steps it took which led to the restoration of relations between Egypt and Jordan.

British Chief of Staff, Delegation Begin Visit

NC122019 Cairo MENA in Arabic 1820 GMT 12 Feb 85

[Text] Cairo, 12 Feb (MENA) — British Chief of Staff Field Marshal Edwin Bramall arrived in Cairo this evening. He heads a delegation paying a 4-day official visit to Egypt at the invitation of Lieutenant General Ibrahim al-'Arabi, Armed Forces chief of staff, to discuss questions of cooperation between Egypt and Britain. In an arrival statement, the British chief of staff said his talks will deal with strengthening military relations, exchanging visits, and bolstering military cooperation. The British military officer was received at the airport by Major General 'Umar Hammad, commander of the central military zone.

Commentaries View Jordanian-PLO Agreement

NC130647 Cairo MENA in Arabic 2255 GMT 12 Feb 85

[Excerpt] Cairo, 12 Feb (MENA) – In their editorials tomorrow, Cairo newspapers welcome the agreement reached by Jordan and the PLO on the concept of a Jordanian-Palestinian move to achieve a peaceful and just settlement of the Palestinian issue.

In its editorial, *AL-AHRAM* says that we must welcome this Jordanian-Palestinian agreement because, of the Arab countries, Jordan is the closest to the Palestinians and the most affected by the Palestinian issue. Therefore, their agreement is the cornerstone upon which the edifice of a just and permanent peace in the Middle East should be built. The paper adds that the agreement between Jordan and the Palestinians will constitute a type of commitment for the other Arab countries to support. It also represents pressure on the United States and an impetus for it to act to force Israel to accept the joint Jordanian-Palestinian viewpoint, which is supported by the Arab countries. *AL-AHRAM* points out that it is illogical and unacceptable for the Jordanian-Palestinian agreement to be further delayed because each passing day doubles the complexity of the Palestinian problem and forces it into a deadlock while Israel continues to set up settlements in the occupied Arab territories and to create a new fait accompli which will make it difficult, if not impossible, to retrieve these territories in the future.

The paper concludes its editorial by saying: The Palestinians and Jordanians have responded to the call of pragmatic logic. The other Arab countries must be at the same pragmatic level and abandon calls for postponing the issue to future generations or to delay the problem indefinitely.

AL-JUMHURIYAH stresses in its editorial that the Jordanian-Palestinian agreement is a serious and responsible step to break the stagnation in the Arab stand and to drive it toward a conscious move to reach a comprehensive settlement based on a just peace within which the legitimate Palestinian rights can be retrieved. The paper points out that this agreement will meet persistent Arab and international demands. In one way, it means the possibility of reaching a definite Arab stand and, in another, it showa the concerned international parties, primarily the United States, their responsibilities particularly since they have pleaded the nonexistence of a unified Arab stand.

Concluding its editorial, *AL-JUMHURIYAH* points out that the Jordanian-Palestinian agreement needs a real Arab [conference] table that will put the higher pan-Arab interests at the top, a table free from selfish conflicts and attempts to make small gains at the expense of the foremost pan-Arab cause, namely, the Palestinian people's problem.

President Signs Decree Pardoning Political Dissidents

JN130610 Baghdad INA in Arabic 0600 GMT 13 Feb 85

[Text] Baghdad, 13 Feb (INA) — It was announced here today that amnesty has been granted to all Iraqis inside and out of Iraq who are fugitives from justice.

An RCC decree signed by President Saddam Husayn indicates that this amnesty applies to Iraqis from all the illegal parties and political movements whose activities were hostile to the country and revolution.

The RCC decree says that the amnesty includes the leaders [wajihat] and organizations of the Al-Da'wah party and similar groups who worked for Iran and the regimes allied to it.

It points out that all the sentences passed against them will be dropped and all legal measures against their crimes will be suspended.

The RCC called on all those covered by this decree in Iraq to report to the nearest military or civilian authority within 30 days of its issuance on the 11th of this month. It also called on those covered by the decree outside Iraq to report to the Iraqi Embassies within 60 days of its issuance in order to secure their return to Iraq.

The RCC indicated that this decree stems from care for every Iraqi citizen even if he made a mistake or deviated in the past and from the desire to give him a chance to confirm his loyalty to Iraq and his readiness to serve it.

It adds that many of those who were deceived in the past under the influence of plotters against the country and people have discovered the truth, become aware of the offense they committed against their country, and regretted their wrongdoing.

The RCC stressed that all sentences passed against those included by the decree will be considered null and the legal procedures against the crimes they committed will be stopped.

President Receives Messages From Foreign Leaders

From Egypt's Mubarak

JN111017 Baghdad INA in Arabic 1000 GMT 11 Feb 85

[Text] Baghdad, 11 Feb (INA) — Today, President Saddam Husayn received 'Abd al-Mun'im Ghunaym, head of the Egyptian interests section in Baghdad. Ghunaym conveyed an oral message to President Saddam Husayn from his brother President Husni Mubarak dealing with fraternal bilateral relations and Arab issues of common concern.

The president asked the Egyptian official to convey his warm greetings to his brother President Husni Mubarak and his appreciation for Egypt's principled stands in supporting Iraq in its just battle to defend its sovereignty.

Tariq 'Aziz, deputy prime minister and foreign minister, and the president's secretary attended the meeting.

From Kuwaiti Amir

JN111916 Baghdad Domestic Service in Arabic 1900 GMT 11 Feb 85

[Text] President Saddam Husayn has received a written message from his brother Kuwaiti Amir Shaykh Jabir al-Ahmad al-Sabah on fraternal bilateral relations and their development. The message was delivered to President Saddam Husayn by Dr 'Abd al-Rahman Salim al-'Atiqi, the Kuwaiti amir's personal adviser, when President Saddam Husayn received him this evening.

Dr al-'Atiqi conveyed greetings from Shaykh Jabir al-Ahmad al-Sabah to President Saddam Husayn, who asked him to convey his greetings to his brother Shaykh Jabir al-Ahmad al-Sabah. The meeting was attended by the president's secretary.

Dr 'Abd al-Rahman Salim al-'Atiqi arrived in Baghdad today with a written message to President Saddam Husayn from his brother Kuwaiti Amir Shaykh Jabir al-Ahmad al-Sabah.

Spokesman Describes 2d Attack on Maritime Target

JN121938 Baghdad Domestic Service in Arabic 1900 GMT 12 Feb 85

[Text] A military spokesman has stated the following:

In the name of God, the merciful, the compassionate. Here are new good tidings of final victory, God willing, created for you, O brave Iraqis, by the valiant air eagles. After directing precise and effective air strikes at a big maritime target at 1030 today, they succeeded at 1815 in directing another air strike at a very big maritime tagret near Khark Island. The new target is added to the list of stricken maritime targets as part of Iraq's firm policy to block Iranian oil supplies until the ignorant and inept Iranian rulers heed the call of righteousness and peace and stop the policy of aggression. All our planes returned safely to their bases, God be praised.

Let this day of victory serve as witness to the Iraqi forces' bravery and superiority over all operational theaters. Let it also newly prove the defeat of aggression and its objectives. God grants support and success.

[Dated] 12 February 1985

Armed Forces Issue Communique No 1,740 12 Feb

JN121827 Baghdad Domestic Service in Arabic 1700 GMT 12 Feb 85

[Communique No 1,740 issued by Armed Forces General Command on 12 February 1985]

[Text] In the name of God, the merciful, the compassionate.

They are the strikes of justice against falsehood. They are the crushing blows of this good land's glorious sons and the defenders of freedom and progress dealt by the Iraqi people's valiant forces to the Iranian rulers. These rulers went beyond all limits and ignored historical and modern facts when they declared their

hostility toward the Iraq of many civilizations, whose glory was resurrected and whose edifice was built by its genius leader Saddam Husayn, and when they showed their black designs and dreams. Here are the days revealing that humiliation is their destiny and that Iraq, under the revolution, will continue to exist and to give through construction and struggle. God be praised for granting victory to his subjects and for defeating the forces of falsehood.

The following are the results for yesterday evening and today:

1. At 0200 on 12 February, the fighters of the heroic 434th Brigade from the II Army Corps carried out its plan to occupy strategic targets in the central sector. Following a lightning raid, the heroes of the brigade succeeded in pouncing on the Khomeyni remnants in their positions and killing them. Only those who surrendered were saved. The heroes of the brigade occupied the new positions and the situation was decided in their favor half an hour after the operation began. Blessed be the men of the heroic 434th Brigade.

2. In the sector east of the Tigris River, the command of the heroic Khalid Forces carried out two separate operations that were characterized by rare courage, complete surprise, good command, and brilliant performance. The heroes of the Khalid Forces stormed enemy forces and defenses in their positions and killed the Khomeyni remnants. They completely destroyed three tanks together with their crews. They also destroyed 15 personnel shelters and killed everyone in them. Our soldiers confirm 103 enemy dead on the battlefield. The enemy fled, leaving them behind. Large quantities of usable weapons and equipment were also seized. After performing their duty in destroying the enemy forces and their equipment, the Khalid Forces returned to their positions, bringing several prisoners with them . They came back triumphant. Blessed are the heroic men of the Khalid Forces.

3. God has willed that the triumph will be complete. The aircraft of our giant Air Force succeeded in detecting a big maritime target near Khark Island. Iraq's brave eagles directed strong strikes at this target at 1030 today, scoring direct hits. They then returned safely to their bases. God be praised.

4. As an assertion of Iraqi superiority on the ground, sea, and air, the aircraft of our giant Air Force continued to launch successful air raids on enemy positions and troop concentrations in the central and east of Basra sectors, inflicting heavy losses in personnel, arms, and equipment on the enemy. The aircraft returned to base safely and triumphantly, God be praised, after the air eagles had carried out 93 combat missions.

5. Through successful sorties in the sector east of Basra, our brave helicopters destroyed four infantry positions and killed everyone in them. They also destroyed one 106mm gun. They then returned safely to their bases.

6. One enemy soldier was killed and one infantry position was destroyed in Maysan operational sector.

7. Escaping the crimes of the treacherous Khomeyniite clique in Iran, an Iranian family sought refuge with our forward units in the northern operational sector. The members of this family were safely removed to the rear lines.

[Signed] The Armed Forces General Command, 12 February 1985

Housing Minister Confers With Romania's Petre

JN121210 Baghdad INA in Arabic 1117 GMT 12 Feb 85

[Text] Baghdad, 12 Feb (INA) — Muhammad Fadil Husayn, Iraqi minister of housing and reconstruction, met with Ion Petre, Romanian minister of industrial construction, and his delegation today. They reviewed areas of bilateral cooperation and ways of developing them in the fields of implementing roads, bridges, and housing projects.

Turkish Minister of Finance Arrives 12 Feb

JN122110 Baghdad INA in Arabic 2050 GMT 12 Feb 85

[Text] Baghdad, 12 Feb (INA) — Turkish Minister of Finance Ahmet Kurtcebe Alptemocin arrived here this evening at the head of a delegation on a visit to Iraq that will last several days. He will hold talks with Iraqi officials on the stages of implementing the new pipeline project between Iraq and Turkey. An agreement to implement this project was reached in August of last year. The talks will also deal with the existing friendly and cooperative relations between Iraq and Turkey and the possibility of developing and expanding them in the two people's joint interests.

Further on Reaction to Agreement With PLO

West Bank, Gaza Reaction

JN130833 Amman JORDAN TIMES in English 13 Feb 85 pp 1, 3

[By Salamah B. Ni'mat, *JORDAN TIMES* staff reporter]

[Excerpts] Amman — The agreement reached Monday between Jordan and the Palestine Liberation Organisation (PLO) on a "framework for common action" for a peaceful settlement to the Palestinian question is based on the principle of exchanging land for peace as included in United Nations resolutions and the Fes Arab summit plan, official sources said Tuesday.

The sources said the agreement incorporated U.N. resolutions with the Fes plan, which implicitly recognised Israel's right to exist within secure borders, but did not commit itself to any specific U.N. resolution.

Jordan and the PLO "have agreed to work together on the principle of exchange of territories for peace as included in U.N. resolutions and the Fes plan," the sources told the *JORDAN TIMES*, adding that the two sides also agreed to work together for the convening of an international Middle East peace conference with the participation of all parties involved in the Arab-Israeli conflict.

The agreement, reached during a meeting between His Majesty King Husayn and PLO Chairman Yasir 'Arafat, was communicated to Saudi Arabia's King Fahd, who is currently visiting Washington for talks with U.S. President Ronald Reagan, and also to Egyptian President Husni Mubarak's political adviser 'Usamah al-Baz, who was on a three-day visit in Amman.

Sources in Amman and Cairo told the *JORDAN TIMES* that Mr. 'Arafat had already won the backing of the PLO Executive Committee and Central Council on the Jordanian-Palestinian agreement.

However, the PLO Executive Committee and Central Council are expected to meet in Algiers or Tunis in the next few days to discuss the endorsement of the agreement, the sources added.

A few hours after the announcement Monday of reaching an agreement on joint action between Jordan and the PLO, Mr. 'Arafat, who left Amman at 1 a.m. Tuesday for an unknown destination, said he was not optimistic that the agreement would evoke a positive U.S. response.

He told reporters at the Amman military airport that "we (Jordanians and Palestinians) will work together to find a just solution to the Middle East problem in accordance with Palestine National Council (PNC) resolutions and this agreement between us and his majesty."

Asked why he felt the agreement would not win the support of the United States, Mr. 'Arafat said: "I am not optmistic over this administration. It is completely biased to the Israeli point of view."

Mr. 'Arafat said he sought American recognition of the right to self-determination for the Palestinian people, "a sacred right for all the people of the world."

Reports of the Amman agreement met mixed reaction in the occupied West Bank and Gaza Strip.

Hanna Signora, editor of the East Jerusalem daily *AL-FAJR* (the Dawn), called the agreement a "historic accord."

Bethlehem Mayor Ilyas Frayj, a Palestinian leader who has frequently called for negotiations with Israel, said he hoped the Jordan-PLO move would revive the peace process.

But Bassam al-Shak'ah, former mayor of Nablus, contended that the agreement would deepen rifts in the Palestinian camp and allow Israel to continue building settlements in the occupied territory.

Ibrahim Qara'in, editor of the *AL-AWDA* newspaper, said "the agreement proves that the PLO is able to reach practical decisions which talk about a practical solution according to the U.N.'s decisions."

Mr. Qara'in, speaking on Israel Radio in fluent Hebrew, also said he hoped Israel would not reject the agreement and would "exploit the opportunity."

Four Damascus-based Palestinian groups Tuesday strongly condemned the agreement.

The Democratic Front for the Liberation of Palestine (DFLP), the Popular Front for the Liberation of Palestine (PFLP), the Al-Sa'iqah group and the Popular Struggle Front issued separate statements criticizing the agreement.

The four groups boycotted the meeting of the PNC in Amman last November.

Pan-Arab Action Needed

JN130723 Amman JORDAN TIMES in English 13 Feb 85 p 4

[Editorial: "Largely Good News"]

[Text] The announcement of the agreement between Jordan and the Palestine Liberation Organisation (PLO) on a joint political strategy to resolve the Arab-Israeli conflict by negotiations is largely good news, but should not yet send the hopeful folks of the world dancing for joy about peace in the holy land. The fact is, what Jordan and the PLO have put together, only a joint, pan-Arab action can prevent from being torn asunder. The details of the agreement still have to be announced and to pass the scrutiny of the other Arab states and friendly powers around the world who have aspirations of playing a helpful role in Middle Eastern diplomacy. We hope that what Jordan and the PLO have agreed upon can serve as the basis of a united Arab peace stand, which in turn could lead us into peace negotiations with the Israelis.

The fact remains, however, that the Arab world has been talking about peace for many years, and for the last two and a half of those years we have had general agreement on the Fes resolutions and the need for an international peace conference as a forum to make peace with Israel. We are lacking neither peaceful intentions, nor a proposed mechanism to attain peace and coexistence. What we have always lacked is the political will and diplomatic ability to translate our passive peace overtures into dynamic negotiations.

The Jordan-PLO agreement may help overcome this chronic Arab deficiency, and finally put the American-Israeli combine in a position where one has called its bluff about wanting to negotiate peace with the Arabs.

Agreement Begins 'New Stage'

JN131055 Amman AL-RA'Y in Arabic
13 Feb 85 pp 1, 20

[Editorial: "The Beginning of a New Stage"]

[Text] The Jordanian-Palestinian agreement on a formula for joint action has begun a new stage, whether on a pan-Arab or an international level. The agreement stresses an important fact: The primary and essential foundation for any Arab move lies in the agreement between the Jordanian and Palestinian sides, because they are the sides that are directly and more comprehensively concerned with the Palestine question. This agreement also stresses that international action and dealings with this question require a Jordanian-Palestinian formula for movement as long as the objective is the implementation of the international resolutions on the Palestine question.

His Majesty King Husayn's current visit to fraternal Algeria and all the continuous Arab contacts on all levels, in addition to the consultations that promote coordination and unify viewpoints, must all lead to giving the Jordanian-Palestinian formula an Arab framework, a matter that will make this formula acquire the strength and influence that have long been absent from the pan-Arab arena, and, consequently, from the international arena.

Moreover, King Fahd's visit to Washington, President Husni Mubarak's imminent visit, and the Arab-U.S. meetings that will follow, will certainly reactivate the crisis the Zionist enemy, as well as many world forces, want to freeze and even to push away from international concern. This is what has permitted and still permits this enemy and the forces backing it to implement Judaization and expansion schemes and to strike at the Arab nation when solidarity among Arab countries is at a minimum.

What the Arab citizen wishes most now is to see the Arab countries, peoples, and leaders regain the language of dialogue and coordination among themselves and to represent the real ideals of this nation, its causes, and its right to justice, security, and stability.

If the political efforts are destined to achieve positive results in the interest of pan-Arab rights and Palestinian rights in particular, it must achieve another important result that will place us before the reality of the pan-Arab struggle we are waging against our enemy and its allies. It must also place us all before the option that nations and peoples eventually face: either to live or die with dignity — and both of these are a victory for right, justice, and pride.

'Arafat Expects No Change in U.S. Policy

JN121928 Baghdad Voice of PLO in Arabic 1618 GMT
12 Feb 85

[Excerpts] Brother leader Abu 'Ammar [Yasir 'Arafat] left Amman early this morning following a 2-day official visit, during which he held talks with Jordan's King Husayn and senior Jordanian officials on Jordanian-Palestinian joint moves and ways of developing and consolidating it.

Abu 'Ammar pointed out that he does not expect any change in U.S. policy toward the Palestine cause under the current U.S. Administration.

He said that the current administration has supplied Israel with support and aid which was not given to Israel by any other administration.

He said the solution will remain in the hands of the Arab will and solid stand.

Prince Hasan Receives 2 U.S. Congressmen

JN130716 Amman JORDAN TIMES in English
13 Feb 85 p 3

[Excerpts] Amman — His Royal Highness Crown Prince Hasan the Regent Tuesday received a delegation of American congressmen and reviewed the latest developments in the Middle East issue and the current situation of the occupied Arab territories.

The two Republican congressmen are currently in Amman on a factfinding tour of the region.

Robert Lagomarsino, a Republican congressman from Ventura constituency and Ronald Packard from San Diego constituency in California had earlier visited the University of Jordan, where they met with its acting president, Mahmud al-Samrah.

Dr. al-Samrah briefed the guests on the university and pointed out that the university has been contributing to national development plans ever since its establishment.

He also underlined the university's role in promoting education for the benefit of Jordanian individuals and the country as a whole. Dr. al-Samrah explained the university's strategy, policy and philosophy and added that it is open to the local community.

The delegation toured the university's premises including the faculties of Engineering, Technology and Sciences and the library. The congressmen will also visit the Israeli occupied West Bank as part of their tour.

Chief of Staff Receives U.S. Congressman

JN121456 Amman Domestic Service in Arabic 1400 GMT 12 Feb 85

[Text] Amman — Staff Lieutenant General Fathi Abu Talib, the chief of staff, received at the General Command this morning U.S. Congressman Burton, who is currently visiting Jordan. The talks dealt with Jordan's defense policy and military matters of mutual concern. The chief of staff also stressed the need for the United States to respond to Jordan's defense requirements and to improve its military capabilities.

SAWT AL-SHA'B Interviews USSR Ambassador

JN130933 Amman SAWT AL-SHA'B in Arabic 13 Feb 85 pp 1, 20

[Text] Amman — USSR Ambassador in Amman Rafik Nishanov has stressed that the only right way to achieve a just and comprehensive settlement in the Middle East, including a solution to the Palestine question, is to exert joint efforts through an international conference on the Middle East.

In a statement to *SAWT AL-SHA'B* on the occasion of the end of his term in Jordan, Nishanov added that there is no alternative to the PLO as the sole and legitimate representative of the Palestinian people.

Regarding Soviet-Jordanian relations and his opinion about the future of these relations, Nishanov said that they are developing in the interest of the two sides. He added that these relations include all fields of cooperation. He pointed out that cooperation exists in the fields of trade, news, culture, and tourism.

On the importance of the joint Palestinian-Jordanian dialogue and action and its effect on peace efforts in the region, Nishanov said that a unified Arab stand and the continuation of joint PLO-Jordanian coordination constitute an important factor for the victory of the just Arab rights and for achieving a comprehensive settlement in the region that would guarantee the Palestinian Arab people's legitimate rights.

Replying to a question on how to reach a just, comprehensive, and peaceful solution to the Palestine question, the Soviet ambassador said: In the USSR, we have always stressed that the only right and effective way to achieve a just, comprehensive, and lasting settlement in the Middle East and of the Palestine question is through joint efforts with the participation of all parties concerned. In other words, he said, to achieve this objective there must be negotiations at an international conference on the Middle East. He said: It is necessary that the PLO, in its capacity as the Palestinian people's sole and legitimate representative, be a partner in this conference with complete rights. He added that this is a matter of primary concern, because a settlement cannot be achieved in the Middle East without a solution to the Palestine question, and the Palestine question cannot be solved without the participation of the PLO.

Regarding the two superpowers' role in settling the Middle East issue and the Palestine question in particular, he said: The USSR and the United States play an important role in Middle East affairs in light of the prevailing circumstances. He said that they have played a role in the previous conference on the Middle East and they can now do the same. He said that the United States and the USSR should play an important role in achieving a just, comprehensive, and lasting settlement in the Middle East.

On the Iraq-Iran war and the threats posed by the prolongation of this war, Nishanov said that an end to this war can only be achieved by diplomatic and political means, and not by military ones. He added that any political negotiations will be better than the language of weapons and bloodshed even if these negotiations should last for a long time.

Prince Hasan Receives Italian Delegation

JN121420 Amman Domestic Service in Arabic 1400 GMT 12 Feb 85

[Text] Amman — His Highness Crown Prince Hasan, the regent, received at the Jordanian Air Force command at noon today the delegation of teachers and students of the Italian Higher Academy for Defense Studies, led by General (Mario Rossi), which is currently visiting Jordan. At the beginning of the meeting, his highness welcomed the guest delegation and presented an explanation of the Middle East issue, the latest developments in the Arab arena, and the dangers threatening the region.

Al-Fayiz Makes Statement, Leaves for Egypt

JN121455 Amman Domestic Service in Arabic 1400 GMT 12 Feb 85

[Text] House of Representatives Speaker 'Akif al-Fayiz left Amman for Cairo at noon today at the head of a parliamentary delegation on an official week-long visit to the Arab Republic of Egypt at the invitation of National Assembly Speaker Rif'at al-Mahjub. Before leaving, Al-Fayiz praised the brotherly relations between Jordan and the Arab Republic of Egypt.

He said: This visit follows His Majesty King Husayn 's brave step in restoring diplomatic relations with fraternal Egypt so that it can assume its effective and historic role. The atmosphere of accord among the Arab countries can thus be regained and a unified position toward the region's issues can be adopted. He added: The restoration of diplomatic relations with Egypt is a step that should be taken by all Arab countries that believe in the joint fate of the sons of this nation.

Central Bank Affirms Stance on Foreign Banks

JN130806 Amman JORDAN TIMES in English 13 Feb 85 p 7

[Text] Amman (J.T.) — The Central Bank of Jordan (CBJ) has denied that the government is changing its mind about requiring foreign bank branches in the country to reorganise their equity share-holding to reflect at least a 51 per cent Jordanian ownership. An international news agency reported two days ago, quoting foreign bankers in Jordan, that the government may delay or drop its requirement that the eight foreign banks in the country become majority Jordanian-owned by the end of 1986.

An official Central Bank spokesman told the *JORDAN TIMES* Tue[illegible]: "There has been no change in government policy re[illegible]ing the requirement that foreign bank branches in Jordan b[illegible]me 51 per cent locally owned within the required three-year period. The news items that have appeared to this effect are not supported by any new measures or arrangements on the part of the Jordanian Government which may, in any way, reverse or change previous decisions."

Foreign bankers in Amman were quoted as saying that the stumbling block would be that the sale of the shares would weigh too heavily on an already weak stock market.

The market has already declined by 60 per cent from its peak in 1982, and bankers said it probably could not absorb flotation of 51 per cent of the equity of the foreign banks.

Foreign banks must have minimum capital of five million dinars ($12 million), implying new share sales of at least 20 million dinars ($48 million) in a small market.

Bankers said that even if the bank shares were successfully floated, it would be at the expense of shares of non-financial companies in Jordan, many of which are undercapitalised and already finding it hard to raise new equity capital.

JORDAN TIMES Praises Bedouin, Tribal Virtues

JN130741 Amman JORDAN TIMES in English
13 Feb 85 p 4

[Article by Musa Kilani: "Jordanian Bedouins Enshrine Arab Virtues"]

[Text] Jordan is the only Arab country where a visitor gets the chance to feel the real impact of bedouin life on several aspects of a modern society. A modernised version of a bedouin dress is always present as part of the official uniform used by guards of honour greeting heads of state on their arrival at Amman Airport. The desert patrol enshrines the bedouin heritage, as well as they accurately reflect the delicate balance of power, numerically, between the various tribes, whether they be the Bani Sakhr of central Jordan to Bani Hassan of northern Jordan or to Al-Huwaytat of southern Jordan.

A bedouin's Spartan life and early training in some martial arts make him an excellent candidate for a professional military life. Till now many tribes prefer for their members to join the army and start a military career rather than accept any other more lucrative job. This is the case among the majority of Al-'Abbad, Al-'Adwan, Al-'Ajarimah, Al-Sarhan, Al-Suradiyah, Bani Hamidah, Al-Balqawi tribes, as well as city dweller tribes in Al-Salt, Al-Karak, Ma'an, Al-Tafilah, Irbid and Aqaba.

Though, statistically, the bedouins are less than three per cent of the Jordanian population according to the latest census, many Ammanite Jordanians are proud of their bedouin origin. That pride is ascribed to the bedouin ethos which is justly viewed as an ideal to be emulated and as a noble moral code to be followed. Hospitality, generosity, courage, honour and self-respect are the five pillars the bedouin ethos is built on.

The Arab desert exemplifies the heroic age which sublimated the motivational drives of its inhabitants into deeds of glory and pride. The word desert is "badiya" in Arabic; hence we have the word "badawi" or bedouin. The desert bedouin enjoyed a high reputation of nobility since the old days when the Prophet Mohammad was sent as a boy to one of the bedouin tribes to absorb the best and noblest in the national tradition, manners, customs, and way of life. Till now some Arab philologists rely on Jordanian, Kuwaiti and Najdi tribes regarding fine points in pronunciation and derivatives.

The bedouin leads a life which has not changed much since he domesticated the camel in the eleventh century B.C. Moving with his camel, the ship of the desert, the Arab bedouin guarded for us in the 20th century the purity of language, blood and tradition. Even his "thawb," long cloak "abah" "kuffiyya" and "iqal" did not change since early descriptions of Arabs by Greek historians more than two thousand years ago. The desert life moulded in its inhabitants a rugged individuality which does not lend easily to authority and whose loyalty is confined to the family, the sheikh, and the "qabila" — tribe.

Jordanian bedouins are a patrilineal and patriarchal society, all of whom are kin-oriented or kin-based. Dr Ahmad 'Uwaydi al-'Abaadi, in his excellent book *Jordanian Tribes* which was published recently, shows how each extended bedouin family traces their descent to one common patrilineal ancestor. Such an extended family forms one social unit which camps together, looks for water and pasture together, and practices endogamy. Consequently, a strongly-developed feeling of cohesion was created amongst them. Several wandering units formed one subtribe, and several of these formed one tribe, and several tribes formed one confederation, tribally speaking.

The challenge of the desert made Arab bedouins abide by certain values, moral codes, structures, and ethics. Lack of water made the desert incapable of supporting all inhabitants. So whenever a tribe was lucky enough to find some water, it protected the place and protected its members from attack by others. So tribal cohesion was the first lesson that the desert taught. Each member was committed to group solidarity and mutual responsibility. Due to the external challenge, members feel the great pressure to conform and to uphold the group values and ethics. Since a member is doomed to be lost if he is not supported and protected by his tribe, he has to pay the price of identifying his image with that of his tribe. He internalises his tribe's aspirations, love, glory, revenge and enmity. By keeping his individuality intact, he contributes more to his tribe's vigour than by submerging it.

The bedouin ethos is seen in the bravery, manliness (murou'a) and group cohesion manifested by the 'khamsa' concept. The 'khamsa' is the group who will always support a member against an outsider. They are the male relatives nearest to him within five male links. They share his glory and his shame. They are to defend and avenge him and are also target of revenge if he happens to be the aggressor. Therefore, a bedouin thinks of his 'khamsa' and tribe before committing besmearing deeds. This way there was less bloodshed in the desert. The desert made a mandatory guideline the virtues of hospitality, generosity and honour.

Al-Jumayyil, Karami End Visit to Damascus

NC121829 Beirut Voice of Lebanon in Arabic 1715 GMT 12 Feb 85

[Text] President of the Republic Shaykh Amin al-Jumayyil, Prime Minister Rashid Karami, and Colonel Simon Qassis have ended their 5-hour visit to Syria. During their stay, they offered congratulations to President Hafiz al-Asad. Their visit also provided an opportunity to review every aspect of the Lebanese problem in two rounds of talks, interrupted by a luncheon.

Husayn al-Husayni, speaker of the Chamber of Deputies, said this evening that he expects the roads [not further specified] to be reopened. In a statement after his meeting with President al-Jumayyil, Al-Husayni added that Syrian President al-Asad reaffirmed his support for Lebanon's march toward salvation. He said there are positive and encouraging signs amidst the difficulties. He expressed hope that the roads will be reopened soon, and that the different parts of Lebanon will be linked.

Although there has been no official statement on the Damascus talks, informed sources described them as positive. The sources added that the discussions touched on topics concerning Lebanon in light of expected events in the south. The talks also dealt with plans that will be implemented with Syrian participation to help Lebanon overcome its difficult circumstances.

The sources noted that the southern question received the greatest attention in light of the upcoming first stage of the Israeli withdrawal and the Lebanese Army's readiness to take up positions and fill any vacuum which might emerge from the Israeli forces' withdrawal.

Further on Clashes With Israeli Forces in Tura

One Killed, Three Wounded

NC121448 (Clandestine) Voice of Arab Lebanon in Arabic 1330 GMT 12 Feb 85

[Text] At least one person was martyred and three others wounded in Tura today, where a violent clash took place between the town's residents and the occupation forces. Sixty enemy tanks have been besieging the town and firing haphazardly at its houses since morning.

Confirming reports to this effect, UNIFIL Spokesman Timor Goksel said that the occupation forces destroyed two homes in Tura. AFP reported that some 500 enemy soldiers, accompanied by police dogs, stormed the city and rounded up its inhabitants in the town square. There was a sharp confrontation before the occupation forces entered the town, detained roughly 200 residents, burned down several homes, and destroyed the furniture in a number of others.

In Burj Rahhal, the occupation forces arrested the town's imam, Shaykh Husayn Surur, and many other inhabitants. In response, a crowd of demonstrators headed toward the Jabal 'Amil institution. Enemy soldiers fired randomly at the demonstrators, sparking off a fierce clash that resulted in casualties on both sides.

The occupation forces also surrounded ('Atshit) and detained some of its residents. Other Zionist units are now besieging Ma'rakah, and are trying to storm it.

Resistance Counterattacks

NC121546 Beirut Domestic Service in Arabic 1500 GMT 12 Feb 85

[Text] Two people were martyred and more than 27 others wounded in a fierce confrontation between residents of Tura in Tyre District and the Israeli units that stormed the town this morning. A great number of citizens were arrested. The Israeli forces demolished several homes in the village on the pretext of searching for arms, although none were found.

Reacting to the Israeli occupation forces storming of Tura, Lebanese national resistance fighters attacked an Israeli assembly point at 1230 today in the Day Qanun al-Nahr-Burj Rahhal-Al-'Abbasiayh triangle. After more than 15 minutes of fighting, the sources of the Israeli fire were silenced, and the resistance fighters returned safely to base. An Israeli armored force arrived on the scene and opened fire wildly.

An explosive charge planted by resistance fighters in the Shabriha area went off near an Israeli vehicle carrying more than eight soldiers. The vehicle was destroyed and its occupants were either killed or wounded.

Rockets Used Against Israelis

NC121958 (Clandestine) Voice of Arab Lebanon in Arabic 1730 GMT 12 Feb 85

[Excerpts] According to our latest information from the south this evening, Lebanese national and Islamic resistance fighters used rockets to attack the Zionist occupation soldiers at 1600 today during their attempted withdrawal from Tura in Tyre District. The attack took place on the dirt road linking Tura to Tayr Dibbah and Al-Ma'rakah. Our report adds that there were several enemy casualties, but notes that their number is difficult to determine due to the tight security cordon put up around the area by the occupation forces.

A report we received this evening states that resistance fighters fired a rocket at an enemy position in Al-Qasimiyah at 1815 today. The rocket hit its target, and a fire broke out at the scene.

According to reports from western Al-Biqa' today, a land mine exploded under an Israeli tank passing near Kamidal-Lawz. The tank's entire crew was killed and the vehicle was completely destroyed.

Birri Contacts UN, Envoys

NC121733 Beirut Domestic Service in Arabic 1500 GMT 12 Feb 85

[Text] According to correspondents' reports, 2 Israeli Centurion tanks, 12 personnel carriers, and 6 other military vehicles besieged Tura early this morning. In the meantime, Israeli

soldiers, accompanied by police dogs, rounded up the residents of the village, located within the area of operation of UNIFIL's French contingent, for questioning.

In light of this report, Nabih Birri, minister of state for south Lebanon and reconstruction affairs, sent a cable to UN Secretary General Javier Perez de Cuellar and got in touch with the ambassadors of the great powers.

Birri said later: I contacted these envoys to brief them on the latest Israeli massacre, particularly since Tura is within UNIFIL's area of operation. The ambassadors promised to notify their governments and to seek their intervention with UN organizations for the purpose of ending such measures against defenseless civilians. We are in constant touch with the south to keep abreast of developments there. It appears that Israel's claims of a desire to withdraw from the south are accompanied by arrogant increases in its acts of aggression in those regions where it wishes to stay. It believes that it can destroy the national resistance forces in these areas, and thus remain there. This is particularly true of the area south of Al-Qasimiyah, where it is seeking to achieve its historical ambitions. This makes our battle against Israel a protracted one, and requires the rallying of all Lebanese to achieve liberation and to foil all schemes.

Note to UN Planned

NC121849 Beirut Domestic Service in Arabic 1630 GMT 12 Feb 85

[Text] The Foreign Ministry directed its attention today to Israeli practices in the south and Israel's siege and storming of Tura with tanks and armored vehicles.

Nabih Birri, minister of state for south Lebanon and reconstruction affairs, called the ministry's secretary general, Ambassador Fu'ad al-Turk, and discussed these developments with him.

Ambassador al-Turk then telephoned Rashid Fakhuri, Lebanon's permanent representative to the United Nations in New York, and asked him to submit a note to the UN Security Council on Israel's actions against southern villages. This note will be circulated as an official document among the members of the UN Security Council.

Israelis, Lahd Units Complete Sidon Withdrawal

NC121659 Beirut Domestic Service in Arabic 1622 GMT 12 Feb 85

[Text] We have learned from security sources in the south that the Israeli occupation forces and the Lahd militiamen have left Sidon, and are now at the Al-Awwali River and in the Tapline area. This places them near Sidon, but outside the city itself.

The Israelis and the Lahd forces also headed for 'Adra after leaving Sidon. Contacts involving the Internal Security Forces are now in progress on how to maintain law and order in the city.

Army Closes Sidon Port

NC121834 Beirut Domestic Service in Arabic 1800 GMT 12 Feb 85

[Statement issued by the Army Command's Guidance Directorate on 12 February]

[Text] The port of Sidon will be closed to all inbound and outbound shipping until further notice.

Beirut Denies Al-Huss Assassination Attempt

NC131020 Beirut Domestic Service in Arabic 1000 GMT 13 Feb 85

[Text] Some private information media reported this morning that [former] Prime Minister Dr Salim al-Huss wa subjected to an assassination attempt near the Kuwaiti Embassy traffic circle in Beirut. This report is absolutely unfounded. Dr al-Huss is now attending the Cabinet session.

While being aware of the evil intent of such rumors that aim at creating strife and division, it is hoped that the information media will strive for truth and objectivity in news reporting.

Briefs

Canadian Grant — The Chief of the Canadian Foreign Ministry's Middle East section said that the Canadian Government has decided to give Lebanon 1 million Canadian dollars as its contribution to renovating the water system in Beirut and its suburbs. [Excerpt] [*Beirut Domestic Service in Arabic 1130 GMT 12 Feb 85 NC*]

Al-Jumayyil Resumes Talks With Al-Asad, Leaves

JN121903 Damascus Television Service in Arabic 1730 GMT 12 Feb 85

[Text] President Hafiz al-Asad and President Amin al-Jumayyil resumed their talks in the guest palace today. Lebanese Prime Minister Rashid Karami; General Mustafa Talas, deputy prime minister and defense minister; and Foreign Minister Faruq al-Shar' attended the talks.

President al-Jumayyil and Prime Minister Karami conveyed to the president the congratulations of the people and the government in fraternal Lebanon, as well as their own congratulations, on his reelection to a new constitutional term, wishing him good health and further success in the interest of the Syrian people, in the Arab nation's cause, and in brotherly relations between Syria and Lebanon. The president thanked President al-Jumayyil and Prime Minister Karami for their congratulations and those of the fraternal Lebanese people, stressing that Syria will continue to assist fraternal Lebanon in achieving liberation, security, national accord, and reconstruction.

The talks dealt with the situation in the Lebanese arena, the situation in the region, and issues of mutual concern.

President al-Asad gave a dinner banquet in honor of the Lebanese president . It was attended by Prime Minister Rashid Karami; Vice President 'Abd al-Halim Khaddam; Gen Mustafa Talas, deputy prime minister and defense minister; Walid Hamdun, deputy prime minister for services affairs; 'Abd al-Qadir Qaddurah, deputy prime minister for economic affairs; Foreign Minister Faruq al-Shar'; and Minister of Presidential Affairs Wahib Fadil.

President Amin al-Jumayyil and his delegation left Damascus at 1700 today. President Hafiz al-Asad saw him off at the airport. He was also seen off by Vice President 'Abd al-Halim Khaddam, Deputy Prime Ministers Walid Hamdun and 'Abd al-Qadir Qaddurah, Interior Minister Nasir al-Din Nasir, Foreign Minister Faruq al-Shar', and Minister of Presidential Affairs Wahib Fadil.

Masses Will 'Foil' Jordan-PLO Agreement

JN130754 Damascus SANA in Arabic 0720 GMT 13 Feb 85

[Text] Damascus, 13 Feb (SANA) — Today's *AL-THAWRAH* commentary says that the agreement 'Arafat and King Husayn signed in Amman is a new serious plot aimed at liquidating the entire Palestine question and at enabling the United States and Israel to impose humiliating settlements on the Arabs.

The paper adds that the timing and undeclared contents of this agreement clearly indicate that 'Arafat and King Husayn are determined to join the Camp David bandwagon, enter into direct negotiations with Israel, and adopt further capitulatory measures.

The paper indicates that it was the United States which encouraged King Husayn to conclude such an agreement with 'Arafat after it had discovered that the latter is an additional tool that is ready to implement its schemes against the Arabs and to concede everything linked to the Palestine question.

It stresses that what the United States and Israel want from 'Arafat at this stage is to rescue the Camp David accords from their current deadlock and concede the Palestinian rights in accordance with an official authorization that enables King Husayn to confer with both Washington and Tel Aviv.

Concluding, *AL-THAWRAH* says: The Palestinian and Arab masses will be able to foil and topple this agreement in the same way as they foiled the Camp David accords and toppled the 17 May agreement that was imposed on Lebanon.

TISHRIN Calls Agreement 'Treason'

JN130918 Damascus SANA in Arabic 0815 GMT 13 Feb 85

[Text] Damascus, 13 Feb (SANA) — The newspaper *TISHRIN* has described the agreement between Yasir 'Arafat and Jordanian King Husayn as treason, a violation of PNC resolutions, treachery against the Palestinian struggle, and a blow to the entire Arab struggle.

In a comment today, the paper stresses that this agreement is a cancellation of the Palestinian revolution and its great achievements, of Palestinian national identity, and the Palestinian people's rights, and a return to Resolution 242, which considers the Palestinian people as a group of refugees whose rightful place is in tents and eligible for aid from UNRWA and other charitable organizations.

The paper points out that this conspiracy goes far beyond the Palestinian framework and falls within the framework of the big Camp David conspiracy against the Arab nation — a conspiracy whose first episode began with Egypt's deviation from the battle and the Egyptian regime's signing of a unilateral peace treaty with the Zionist enemy.

The paper adds: It is not a coincidence that the Camp David sides in the Arab arena move to support this conspiratorial agreement, and that the Israeli agents in Gaza and the West Bank manage to call for a unilateral peace treaty between Jordan and Israel.

In fact, what is taking place is a premeditated plan to fragment the Arab nation, subjugate it to imperialist-Zionist control, scatter our Arab people, encroach on their wealth, and control their destinies.

Concluding, *TISHRIN* says: Arab Syria lies in wait and the leader of Arab Syria is the leader of Arab struggle who holds the reins of the situation. This leader has great determination, especially after the Syrian and Arab nationalist masses have unanimously renewed allegiance to him, to foil the new conspiracy through strong cooperation with all the Arab strugglers and Palestinian fighters who embody the Palestinian people's will inside and outside the occupied homeland.

Shim'on Peres Reacts to Husayn-'Arafat Agreement

Unclear on Agreement

TA121115 Tel Aviv IDF Radio in Hebrew 1100 GMT 12 Feb 85

[Text] Prime Minister Shim'on Peres reacted today to the agreement between Husayn and 'Arafat reached in Amman yesterday. He said: It is not yet clear what they did in Amman; let us wait patiently and refrain from reacting nervously. Shim'on Peres was addressing schoolchildren in Qiryat Motzkin, and he is quoted by our correspondent in the north, Qobi Mandel:

[Begin Peres recording] First let us see what they agreed upon: Whether they agreed to make peace between themselves, or whether they are offering peace to Israel. This is not yet clear. Let us wait patiently and not react nervously. [end recording]

Official Jerusalem sources this morning refused to address the joint Husayn-'Arafat communique, since the details of the agreement are still unknown. At the same time, the political sources repeated Israel's official position, that Israel wants to reach a peaceful settlement with all its neighbors. Israel believes in direct negotiations — the best and only way to solve regional problems — and has furthermore even invited Husayn several times to come to the negotiating table. As for negotiations with the PLO, the sources told our political correspondent 'Oz Frankel that the organization is not a partner to negotiations.

Rejects PLP-'Arafat Meeting

TA121230 Jerusalem Domestic Service in Hebrew 1200 GMT 12 Feb 85

[Excerpt] Our correspondent Haviva Roger reports that the prime minister answered questions today by high school students in Qiryat Motzqin, where Peres received honorary citizenship. Peres totally rejected the meeting between the representatives of the Progressive List for Peace [PLP] and 'Arafat, and sees no point in it. If one wants to submit to a dictate by 'Arafat, a letter will suffice, Peres said. One must not forget that the PLO is continuing to engage in indiscriminate terror, and Israel must not extend its hand — either directly or indirectly — to such an organization.

'Hardly' Peace Proposal

TA130638 Jerusalem Domestic Service in English 0500 GMT 13 Feb 85

[Text] Prime Minister Shim'on Peres has said it's hard to see the 'Arafat-Husayn agreement as a peace proposal. The prime minister was speaking in Jerusalem last night to a conference of the Conservative Judaism Movement. David Essing reports:

[Begin recording] [Essing] Prime Minister Peres says he does not have a clear picture of what lies behind the Husayn-'Arafat agreement, and he added:

[Peres] A peace proposal that does not renounce terror, a peace proposal that does not recognize Israel, a peace proposal which suggests a dictate on one side, can hardly be called a peace proposal.

[Essing] The prime minister again called on Jordan's King Husayn to negotiate directly with Israel.

[Peres] In this government, all parties did agree that if King Husayn will come and propose whatever he has on his mind, we shall not reject it offhand. On the contrary, we shall consider it very carefully, very seriously, and look for a way to stop war and bring the promise of peace to posterity in Arab life as well as in Jewish life.

[Essing] Shim'on Peres said he was very encouraged by U.S. President Ronald Reagan's first reaction to what he said might emerge as a season of Arab visits to Washington. Reagan has said, in plain terms, that whoever seeks peace with Israel must be ready for direct negotiations, recognize Israel, and stop terrorism. [end recording]

Officials, Press View Jordan-PLO Agreement

Rabin on Initiative

TA121257 Tel Aviv IDF Radio in Hebrew 1247 GMT 12 Feb 85

[Text] Defense Minister Yitzhaq Rabin says that his initial impression is that the 'Arafat-Husayn agreement heralds no change that would allow for a substantial political shift. Husayn apparently gave in to 'Arafat, Minister Rabin said. There are no indications of a PLO readiness to accept UN Resolution 242, or to give up terrorism. There is certainly no sign showing that 'Arafat gave Husayn authorization to conduct negotiations. The defense minister emphasized that this is only an expression of his initial impression, based on media reports from Amman. The defense minister's remarks were reported by our correspondent Gil Ronen.

Levi Remarks on Agreement

TA130749 Tel Aviv ITIM in Hebrew 2145 GMT 12 Feb 85

[Text] Holon, 12 Feb (ITIM) — Deputy Prime Minister David Levi said today that Israel will not agree to any international conference as tended toward in the Husayn-'Arafat agreement. "Whoever supports such a conference is actually tearing up the Camp David accords," Mr Levi said in a meeting of the Building Contractors Center in Holon.

"Any coordination between Husayn and 'Arafat indicates that Husayn cannot move toward any kind of policy without the PLO's approval," he said, adding that those who entertained illusions about Husayn have now received the answer from Amman, and tomorrow they will receive it from Algeria.

He also noted that the agreement is intended to create international pressure on Israel to — under the guise of peace — set up a Palestinian state and win the territories back. However, such a state will constitute a danger both to Israel and Jordan.

He also said that the national unity government is not endangered by the agreement as long as it will know to unite against this scheme. He also expressed the hope that the United States will not be led astray and will stand behind its commitments according to the Camp David accords.

Reaction From Territories

TA121134 Jerusalem Domestic Service in English 1100 GMT 12 Feb 85

[Text] In the administered territories, Arab leaders have reacted to the first reports of the PLO-Jordan agreement with caution, but some optimism. Jerry Cheslow reports:

[Begin recording] [Cheslow] Although the official text of the agreement has not been released, the East Jerusalem newspaper *AL-QUDS*, which is identified with Jordan, gives details on two clauses.

In an article headlined, "Historic Accord," *AL-QUDS* reports agreement on territory for peace, and a confederation between Jordan and any future Palestinian state. But the key point that *AL-QUDS* does not spell out is whether PLO Chairman Yasir 'Arafat accepted UN Resolution 242. Therefore, most reactions to the plan in the territories have been cautious, but still basically optimistic.

The publisher of the East Jerusalem newspaper *AL-FAJR* — generally identified with mainstream PLO — Hanna Sanyurah, welcomes the accord. He believes that it means the Palestinians and the Jordanians really want peace. But Sanyurah does not believe 'Arafat accepted UN Resolution 242, which Israel sees as one of the bases for negotiations.

[Sanyurah] Resolution 242 is acceptable to the Jordanians because in 1967 they were the party which lost land to Israel, and for them it's acceptable to exchange land for peace. For us Palestinians, 242 clearly doesn't recognize the people. In it we are accepted as a refugee problem.

[Cheslow] The most outspoken supporter was Bethlehem Mayor Ilyas Frayj. He said that he hoped that it would revive the peace process. Deposed Gaza Mayor Rashad al-Shawwa termed it a great achievement. He called on the Arab states to bury their differences, and unite to settle the conflict.

Among those rejecting the accord was Bassam al-Shak'ah, deposed mayor of Nabulus. Al-Shak'ah said that it would deepen the rifts in the Arab camp and delay real negotiations, allowing Israel to continue its settlement program.

Two East Jerusalem newspapers — *AL-MITHAQ*, which is identified with the rejection front, and the Communist *AL-TALI'AH* — reject the accord. They term it treachery. The editor of *AL-TALI'AH*, Bashir Baghruti, said the accord would mean surrender to Israel, Husayn, Camp David, and the Reagan plan for settling the Palestinian problem. [end recording]

Settlers, MK's on Agreement

TA121300 Tel Aviv MA'ARIV in Hebrew 12 Feb 85 pp 1, 11

[Report by Shefi Gabay, Refa'el Mann, 'Oded Granot, Avino'am Bar-Yosef, and Yehoshu'a Bitzur]

[Excerpts] The agreement reached yesterday in Amman between King Husayn of Jordan and PLO leader Yasir 'Arafat is a combination of various political initiatives, including the Reagan plan, the Husayn formula, and the Fahd plan, which was accepted by all the Arab leaders in the Arab summit in Fes.

The secretary of the Judaea, Samaria, and Gaza District settlement council, 'Otni'el Schneller, told *MA'ARIV* yesterday: "Let it be clear that the Yamit story will not be repeated. If it emerges that there is an intention of entering into negotiations on the basis of territorial concessions, we will firmly demand the disbandment of the government — regardless of everything that this entails."

Knesset Member Shulamit Aloni (Citizens Rights Movement) last night called upon Prime Minister Shim'on Peres to take advantage of the door that has opened in the form of the settlement between Jordan and the Palestinians to promote the political negotiations and the peace process with Jordan. Knesset Member Ya'ir Tzaban of MAPAM said that the Jordanian-Palestinian agreement carries a chance of putting an end to terrorism, and providing a long-term guarantee for peace.

Further on MK's Meeting With Yasir 'Arafat

PLP's Mi'ari Details Meeting

TA121255 Jerusalem Domestic Service in Hebrew 1245 GMT 12 Feb 85

[Text] Knesset Member Muhammad Mi'ari from the PLP has said that it is clear to him from his meeting with Yasir 'Arafat that the PLO wants to embark on the peace course, and that road should begin with an international conference. The PLO does not accept Resolution 242 as it is, but only in conjunction with other UN resolutions, including those discussing self-determination for the Palestinians and their right to establish their own independent state. Muhammad Mi'ari told our correspondent Tzvi Yisre'eli that in the conversation with 'Arafat, the PLO leader did not reject out of hand a proposal raised by the PLP members to cease the hostile acts if agreement is reached on an international conference. 'Arafat said that if such a proposal is raised, he will bring it for a vote. Mi'ari added that 'Arafat believes that after the Reagan-Fahd talks, the chances for progress toward a settlement will become clearer.

Arnon on PLO Goals

TA121237 Tel Aviv 'AL HAMISHMAR in Hebrew 12 Feb 85 p 2

[Interview with Dr Ya'aqov Arnon of the PLP by Eti Ron'el — date and place not given]

[Text] Ron'el: Do you have the text of the 'Arafat-Husayn agreement?

Arnon: The announcement on the joint PLO-Jordan initiative is not surprising, because during our conversation with 'Arafat we were told that the PLO would agree to participate in an international peace conference, with the PLO and Israel. We know that the PLO wants such a conference to be held for the purpose of mutual recognition between it and Israel.

Ron'el: In other words, in that conference the PLO will recognize Israel?
Arnon: The very readiness to participate in a peace conference with Israel constitutes a recognition. We also suggested to 'Arafat that Israel and the PLO cease the hostile activities in the region immediately upon obtaining Israel's acceptance of the conference, to improve the atmosphere between the two sides.

Ron'el: What was his reaction?
Arnon: 'Arafat told us that he will raise the proposal for debate in the PLO institutions. He also said that he hopes the Saudi king will raise the proposal for such a conference at the United States, and that the United States would agree to hold and participate in it.

Ron'el: You have previously raised proposals to cease the violent acts, but you received no response.
Arnon: In the past, 'Arafat granted top priority to maintaining the integrity of his movement, and did not risk a political solution that would be controversial and unacceptable to all the sides. In the PNC conference in Amman, 'Arafat decided to give the political solution top priority, even if this does not win a PLO consensus. I also know that 'Arafat — in his trips to Jordan and Saudi Arabia — makes a lot of effort to obtain a dialogue between Israel and the PLO to solve the conflict by peaceful ways. This approach was emphasized during our meetings, too.

Ron'el: Do you know what 'Arafat demanded of Husayn, and why their agreement took so long in taking shape?
Arnon: Yasir 'Arafat wants the PLO to represent the Palestinians, not Jordan. Furthermore, the Jordanians are demanding that the West Bank be returned to Jordan, whereas 'Arafat regards the West Bank as the future Palestinian state.

Rabin Addresses Knesset on Withdrawal, Terrorism

TA121909 Jerusalem Domestic Service in English 1800 GMT 12 Feb 85

[Text] We are going over to the Knesset now, where the defense minister has just replied to 12 motions for the agenda on Lebanon. Over to Jack Katzenell:

Defense Minister Yitzhaq Rabin says the decision to withdraw by stages was the best that could be adopted under the circumstances, but like the other options, has its disadvantages, and there will be a price to pay. He told the Knesset a few minutes ago that the current increase in terrorist attacks is not due to the decision to withdraw; it is taking place in the areas from which the IDF is not withdrawing in the current stage. Rabin disclosed that the Druze in the Al-Shuf Mountains are no longer preventing the infiltration of terrorists across the Al-Awwali River. On the contrary, he said, they are cooperating with the Shi'ites.

Rabin said he could not promise that no katyushas would fall in Galilee, but it was better for the Army to adopt an offensive strategy of retaliation rather than the defensive one, where every soldier was exposed to terrorist attacks inside Lebanon.

During the debate, the government was attacked from the left and the right. Beni Shalita, of the Likud, said the government was abandoning the people of the north. Yosi Sarid, of the left-wing Citizens' Rights Movement, said the Army would not complete the withdrawal from Lebanon and he called for a total and complete withdrawal.

Further on Rabin Address

TA130735 Tel Aviv IDF Radio in Hebrew 0605 GMT 13 Feb 85

[Text] Defense Minister Yitzhaq Rabin said he prefers that the IDF act in an offensive manner in southern Lebanon, not in the defensive manner which exposes it to terrorist attacks in every Lebanese village. However, Rabin stressed that the government's decision on a phased withdrawal to the international line is the only possible solution under the difficult circumstances in Lebanon. The defense minister yesterday answered motions to the Knesset agenda on the Cabinet decision, and our correspondent there Sha'ul Stav reports:

[Begin recording] [Stav] Terror in Lebanon has not been liquidated, the defense minister said, noting that during the last 2 or 3 weeks there has been an increase in the anti-IDF terrorist acts. At the same time, he emphasized that this increase is exactly in those areas which we are not evacuating during the first stage. The PLO has been dealt a temporary blow in Lebanon, Rabin said, but terror has not been liquidated. There is no one in Lebanon to help Israel prevent terror activity, contrary to the situation vis-a-vis Egypt, Jordan, and even Syria.

[Rabin] The problem remains as to how we fight terror, whether this is done through a presence in areas inside Lebanon, or by deployment along the border, with the security zone I have mentioned, while reserving freedom of action for Israel to forestall the recurrence of the situation existing before June 1982. This is the concept underlying the government's decision.

[Stav] The withdrawal is phased, the defense minister explained, so that it may be orderly. Any move may involve a painful price, and the government will decide anew, before each stage, when the IDF will withdraw and how far. Rabin talked of a new security concept which, in his opinion, should guide the IDF.

[Rabin] I prefer the IDF to act in an offensive, rather than defensive manner, and not in a way whereby it is exposed — as either a moving or immobile target — to any terrorist group in every, or almost every, village.

[Stav] At the end of the debate the coalition members — those who submitted motions to the agenda — settled for the minister's announcement. Tehiya Knesset Member Refa'el Eytan also accepted the minister's reply. The motions by the left-wing opposition members were struck down. [end recording]

Knesset Committee Votes on Lebanon Withdrawal

TA121005 Tel Aviv IDF Radio in Hebrew 0947 GMT 12 Feb 85

[Text] By a majority vote, the Knesset Foreign Affairs and Defense Committee decided to note the Cabinet's decision on a phased withdrawal from Lebanon, and to transfer to the Ministerial Committee on Security Affairs the minutes of the debates it held on the subject. Nineteen members of the committee voted for this formula, a compromise between the Likud and the Alignment; two opposed it — MK's Mikha'el Deqel and Eliyahu Ben-Elisar of the Likud — and four abstained.

MK's Yosi Sarid and Victor Shemtov proposed adopting a resolution calling on the government to withdraw to the international border by May. They, naturally, voted in favor of their own proposal, but 19 opposed that motion, and three abstained — including MK Binyamin Ben-Eli'ezer, Avraham Katz-'Oz, and Sheva Weiss.

Rabin Visits IDF Position Overlooking Sidon

TA121902 Jerusalem Domestic Service in Hebrew 1705 GMT 12 Feb 85

[Text] Defense Minister Yitzhaq Rabin and the chief of staff visited an IDF advance position overlooking the city of Sidon at noon. Rabin said that the recent attacks in Lebanon would not change the IDF's plans to withdraw from Lebanon in line with the government's decision. Our correspondent Yo'el Dar accompanied the defense minister.

[Begin recording] [Dar] The defense minister and the chief of staff stood on the hill overlooking Sidon in which may probably be their last visit to the city before the IDF's withdrawal. An Israeli flag could be seen flying from one of the buildings. Rabin was asked whether the recent attacks indicated that terror would also chase us beyond the international border.

[Rabin] We have no certainty whatsoever that Shi'ite and perhaps other extremist terrorists will not try and attack us. We must be prepared for this and counter these attempts.

[Dar] The defense minister took advantage of this visit to call on the Lebanese Government to take over the area that will be evacuated by the IDF by next Monday.

[Rabin] We reiterate both to the United Nations and the Lebanese Government that we want to transfer the area in an orderly manner. For our part, we have and will continue to do everything possible to hand over the area in a most orderly fashion and prevent unrest, disturbances, massacres, and so forth.

[Dar] Yitzhaq Rabin said that the Air Force attacks on terrorist bases were not acts of revenge, but part of the government's policy to strike at those who attack us.

[Rabin] I think it is part of the same policy in effect all the time — to strike at the terrrorists everywhere and every time we are certain that we are attacking the right targets. [end recording]

Second Phase of IDF Withdrawal From Lebanon Begins

TA130544 Jerusalem Domestic Service in Hebrew 0505 GMT 13 Feb 85

[Text] Six IDF soldiers were slightly wounded in Lebanon last night by the firing of RPG's. The movement southward and the dismantling of installations are continuing. The IDF has already begun to dismantle installations and camps in the eastern sector in Lebanon, the sector which will be evacuated in the next phase of the withdrawal, after the IDF's exit from Sidon and the western sector is completed. Our military correspondent Shmu'el Tal is reporting:

[Begin recording] Although the first stage of the IDF withdrawal from Lebanon has not yet ended, the IDF has already begun to dismantle installations and camps in the area which will be evacuated in the next phase. Reference is to the Al-Biqa' region, where the IDF is deployed opposite the Syrian Army. The cranes and trucks which finished evacuating the equipment in the western sector were directed to the Al-Biqa' region and, as said, have already begun to dismantle installations and transfer them to Israel. Work will be accelerated in the coming weeks, and is expected to last several months.

This is the most complicated stage of withdrawal from the technical point of view, as there is a large number of installations and camps here. In the eastern sector, the IDF is deployed opposite a regular army, with all the attendant implications involving the nature of fortifications, so that the evacuating forces will have lots of work here. Upon the completion of the evacuation, the IDF will be deployed south of the Al-Qir'awn Lake. The defense establishment does not expect the Syrian Army to follow the IDF southward to the new line. It can be assumed that the area will be overrun by terrorists and all types of militia. [end recording]

IDF Replaces Army of Southern Lebanon in Sidon

TA121730 Jerusalem Domestic Service in Hebrew 1700 GMT 12 Feb 85

[Text] Today forces from the army of southern Lebanon [ASL] evacuated Sidon and IDF forces replaced them. Our military correspondent Shmu'el Tal reports that the IDF is patrolling the town and will safeguard the area until the completion of the first phase of the withdrawal.

ASL Soldiers Desert in Wake of IDF Withdrawal

TA130622 Jerusalem Domestic Service in Hebrew 0505 GMT 13 Feb 85

[Text] Lebanese gendarmerie units are already patrolling Sidon; the Lebanese Army is preparing to move southward upon the IDF's exit; the Army's command in Beirut has already instructed that the Sidon Port be closed to prevent the smuggling of arms into Sidon.

At the same time, the ASL is being put to the test. The ASL force, which was stationed in the Sidon area, left the town and deployed in the new area where the IDF deployed. However, not

all of the ASL soldiers moved with the force — 25 soldiers deserted, preferring to remain with their families in town. Our correspondent Gabi Zohar reports:

[Begin recording] According to ASL sources, the number of soldiers who deserted — quietly, or after having given some excuse — is much smaller than the initial estimate of those who would leave the ASL and defend the families left in the IDF-vacated area. These sources further noted that immediately following the adoption of the withdrawal decision by the Israeli Government, the possibility was considered that the ASL soldiers, especially those living in the first area vacated by the IDF, would defect from their army.

It is already evident that as the IDF withdrawal toward the international border proceeds, the number of ASL soldiers who prefer to terminate their service in this army and remain with their families will grow. The number of deserters from this army largely depends on the developments in the IDF-vacated areas. If an armed struggle develops in these areas and bloodshed results, many of the trained and armed ASL soldiers will prefer to remain behind and defend their community members. It should also be mentioned that about 2,100 soldiers are serving in this army today, 66 percent of whom are Christian, 17 percent Shi'ite, 13 percent Druze, and 4 percent Sunni Muslims. The ASL is deployed today in almost half of the region under IDF control in southern Lebanon. [end recording]

Swedish Defense Minister on UNIFIL Role

TA121239 Jerusalem Domestic Service in Hebrew 1220 GMT 12 Feb 85

[Text]Sweden will favorably consider the possibility of increasing its role in UNIFIL if an agreement is reached on expanding the duties of the UN force in Lebanon, if there is a UN mandate for this, and if the UN secretary general asks for the incorporation of a Swedish unit in UNIFIL. The Swedish defense minister said this to our correspondent after he met with the prime minister, the foreign minister, and the defense minister. The visiting minister also visited the Swedish Army soldiers serving as UN observers in the Middle East and operating a UNIFIL field hospital.

1984 Data on Incidents in Lebanon Released

TA121212 Tel Aviv DAVAR in Hebrew 12 Feb 85 p 7

[Report by Tali Zelinger]

[Text] For statistical purposes, the 1984 terrorist attack year ended in December, and the data has already been converted into graphs. In 1984, there were 901 incidents in Lebanon, including attacks and attempted attacks against the IDF, the ASL, and collaborators — according to the following breakdown:

683 attacks or attempted attacks against the IDF, including 190 foiled attempts;
56 terrorist squads penetrated IDF-held territory;
115 roadside bombs and mines;
159 attacks on outposts and strongholds;
154 attacks on convoys;
2 booby-trapped cars; and
7 katyusha attacks.

There were 111 attempted attacks against the ASL, and 107 attempts to attack collaborators with the IDF and members of the civilian guard. The last two figures constitute 24 percent of the total number of attacks or attempted attacks. There was a 21 percent rate of success in foiling attempts, by means of killing squad members, intelligence operations, and ambushes.

IDF Carries Out Arrests in Tyre Area

TA121521 Jerusalem Domestic Service in Hebrew 1500 GMT 12 Feb 85

[Text] Today the IDF carried out arrests in the village of Tura, northeast of Tyre, among people suspected of attacks and aid to terrorists in the village and its environs. Our military correspondent Shmu'el Tal reports that during rioting by the inhabitants in the course of the searches, two residents were wounded by IDF soldiers' fire. One inhabitant was apparently killed when he fell from the roof of a building.

In the Tura region, a group of hostile Shi'ites was uncovered, from which squads left for attacks against IDF forces. Foreign correspondents have reported from Lebanon that IDF armored forces surrounded the village at dawn and, in the course of searching, bulldozers demolished two houses.

Chief of Staff Warns Village of 'Strangers'

TA121912 Jerusalem Domestic Service in English 1800 GMT 12 Feb 85

[Text] The chief of staff and senior officers today visited the village of Al-Khiyam near Metulla and met with local leaders. Lieutenant General Levi warned them not to allow strangers to enter the region and attack Israeli forces. At the beginning of the week, two Israeli soldiers were killed by an explosive charge at the entrance to Metulla.

Report Discloses Syrian Army Data

TA130822 Jerusalem THE JERUSALEM POST in English 13 Feb 85 pp 1, 7

[Report by Joshua Brilliant]

[Text] The Syrian Army has increased by two divisions, from six to eight, since the 1982 war, according to the just published Jaffe Centre for Strategic Studies' *MIDDLE EAST MILITARY BALANCE 1984*. Iraq has 23 divisions, an increase of one, while the IDF still has 11 divisions. "The size of the Israeli Army was unchanged in 1983/84, and the Israel Air Force flew 30 fewer aircraft," the report said. At a press conference yesterday to mark publication, the centre's director, Major General (Ret.) Aharon Yariv, called for a cut in the size of the IDF, so that it could invest more in the development of new weapons which would give it a "decisive edge."

Yariv said Syria was well on the way to obtaining an offensive capability against Israel. While the balance of power is currently favourable to Israel, this country would have to invest heavily in new techniques to safeguard its security in the long run, he said.

Yariv, a former director of military intelligence, cautioned against belittling the Arabs' capability to make good use of their sophisticated weapons. The qualitative edge is narrowing, he stressed.

The Syrian threat is the main one within the next three years. Damascus has been striving for strategic parity with Israel and has already achieved "a very serious defensive capability," as well as being well on the way to obtaining an offensive capability vis-a-vis Israel, he added.

Since most of its strength lies in standing army units, Syria can use the element of surprise better than Israel. It could, for example, seek to occupy the Golan before a cease-fire goes into effect. That could force Israel to go to the negotiating table having lost most of its cards, Yariv said.

By and large, the IDF is stronger than the Syrian Army — and any current combination of forces — but Israel requires time to mobilize its troops.

Yariv added, however, that the Syrians have not yet reached strategic parity, largely because of the Israeli Air Force's superiority, which poses "a certain deterrent factor."

The Syrians' power has, however, already given the regime the ability to take tougher political stands, Yariv said. "Damascus may take greater political risks, knowing that it has the capability to defend itself should Israel seek to settle problems by force," he implied.

Yariv noted that Syrian President Hafiz al-Asad has a personal score to settle with Israel, since he was defence minister and air force commander when the IDF occupied the Golan in 1967.

The enemy has made a serious improvement in the quantity and quality of its weapons systems, he said. "We definitely had the edge, but we're gradually losing it," because of modern Soviet weapons and Western systems which some Arab armies have been receiving.

"We should be very careful — and I am saying this from my own experience — (not to downgrade the Arabs' abilities) to handle sophisticated weapons. Most of them have shown that they are capable of coping with all the weapons systems they have acquired," the reserve general said.

Israel would have to make a "very concentrated effort" to improve the quality of its manpower and systems. It should develop and produce "sophisticated weapons systems that can provide a decisive edge in that category — not just an improvement on the battle field." It must introduce changes in the structure and organization of combat units, command control communications and intelligence systems, as well as update its doctrine and training, he stressed.

It must also try to further the peace process, and to isolate Syria.

He therefore welcomed the Cabinet's decision to withdraw from Lebanon, even though attacks will continue. That is "the least of all evils," Yariv said.

Tabah is worth fighting over, he went on. If Israel feels it has a strong case, it should seek arbitration, and if it is doubtful, it should seek a solution in which Egypt would win sovereignty over the area and Israel economic concessions to operate the hotel.

"My impression," he said, "is (that) our case is not so strong."

Some of the other findings in the book are:

— Israel suffered a trauma in Lebanon and only the most imminent and unambiguous strategic danger would produce another large-scale initiative in the near future.
— The blow Syria suffered in 1982 in Lebanon soon proved to be ofephemeral strategic significance.
— Despite the developments in the area, PLO leader Yasir 'Arafat retains his power to veto negotiations bypassing the PLO. Israel's ability to promote its preferences regarding the Palestinians and the status of the West Bank and the Gaza Strip has not been improved.
— Despite the absence of a breakthrough in the Iran-Iraq war, the potential for more serious escalation remains.
— In 1983, Saudi Arabia spent almost $23 billion on defence. That is about the same as Israel's entire gross domestic product.
— The number of Iranian combat aircraft and helicopters dropped by over 50 per cent between 1983 and 1984.
— Israel has 8,000 armoured personnel carriers, more than twice as many as any other country in the Middle East.
— Iraq has the largest army in the Middle East, but its rapid expansion has produced a drop in the quality of its personnel.
— The structure, equipment and small size of the Multinational Force in Beirut were inappropriate for fighting terrorist and sniping attacks.

The *MIDDLE EAST MILITARY BALANCE* is printed and distributed in Israel and worldwide by *THE JERUSALEM POST* in cooperation with Westview Press in the U.S. The book includes a survey of the major strategic developments in the region, an inventory of the armed forces in the Middle East, a qualitative assessment of military capabilities, and an analysis of various balances of power (especially Israel-Syria and Iran-Iraq).

Peres Says Settlement Near Hebron Not Approved

TA121910 Jerusalem Domestic Service in Hebrew 1705 GMT 12 Feb 85

[Text] Prime Minister Shim'on Peres has made it plain that the government did not pass any decision to set up a settlement in Khirbat al-Rumaythah.

[Begin Peres recording] To the best of my knowledge, there has been no government decision to establish a settlement in Khirbat al-Rumaythah — and that is the situation. People who settle there without permission will be asked to leave. [end recording]

Hebron Settlers Banned From Qiryat Arba' Elections

TA121236 Tel Aviv 'AL HAMISHMAR in Hebrew 12 Feb 85 p 4

[Report by Pinhas 'Inbari]

[Text] The Civilian Administration has issued an instruction forbidding settlers in Hebron to vote for, or be elected to, the Qiryat Arba' Council. This will prevent Rabbi Levinger's name from appearing on any of the lists running in the Qiryat Arba' Council election in a few months. Council head Shalom Wach has appealed to the Civilian Administration on this, and now the possibility of allowing the Hebron settlers to participate in the Qiryat Arba' elections is being reexamined.

Our correspondent has learned there are two major camps which will contest the Qiryat Arba' elections. One is headed by Levinger and [attorney Elyaqim] Ha'etzni, who are demanding a fight for Khirbat al-Rumaythah. Others, running on a separate list, are demanding concentration on the development of Qiryat Arba' only. This, however, is not to say that Ha'etzni and Levinger will run on the same ticket.

SHAS 'Might' Support Territorial Compromise

TA130655 Jerusalem Domestic Service in English 0500 GMT 13 Feb 85

[Text] Cabinet Minister Yitzhaq Peretz of the Sephardi-Orthodox SHAS Party indicates his party might support the idea of territorial compromise for peace. Rabbi Peretz said he supports peace talks with the Arabs without preconditions. At the same time, he dismissed the 'Arafat-Husayn agreement, saying 'Arafat doesn't really want peace. Rabbi Peretz said that while his party does not doubt that Jews own all the land of Israel, for the sake of peace with the Arabs and among Israelis he favors negotiations.

Drop in Foreign Citizens' Deposits Noted

TA121214 Tel Aviv HA'ARETZ in Hebrew 12 Feb 85 p 1

[Report by Jerusalem correspondent Shlomo Ma'oz]

[Text] Within a year, from the collapse of the bank shares, which marked the beginning of the economic crisis, foreign citizens' deposits dropped by $225 million. This drop was higher than expected, given the fact that during that period the foreign citizens were paid interest worth at least $650 million.

Experts believe that as foreign citizens usually keep about two-thirds of the interest paid them, it would be legitimate to calculate that the drop in foreign citizens' deposits reached $6.479 million by the end of September. This is included in a report issued yesterday by the Controller of Foreign Exchange.

The report also indicates that Israel will have to repay a sum of about $7.5 billion within a year beginning in October 1984, compared to approximately $5.8 billion last year — or a 30-percent increase. Of this, Israel must delay repayment of short-term debts worth approximately $3.9 billion this year, compared to $9 billion last year. Repayment of capital and interest on intermediate and long-term loans has grown from $2.6 billion to approximately $3.25 billion.

HA'ARETZ notes that around the time of the 1984 elections, during former Finance Minister Yig'al Kohen-Orgad's term, in the second quarter of the year, Israel's foreign debts incurred due to short-term loans — loans that must be defrayed within a year — shot up from approximately $3.1 billion to $4 billion. As a result, the Israeli economy's commitments abroad (according to the Bank of Israel's definition, which calculates it as the gross foreign debts minus the assets held by the banking system abroad) in the second quarter of 1984 grew by approximately $1 billion.

In the third quarter of that year, Israel encountered difficulties in trying to obtain convenient loans abroad following earlier efforts made — due to the elections — to conceal the drop in the foreign currency reserves. As a consequence, Israel's foreign currency reserves dropped by about $1 billion between July and September. As a result of these difficulties in the international markets, Israel's commitments to other countries froze in the third quarter of the year and stood, at the end of September 1984, at $23,824 million — according to the Bank of Israel's definition.

At the end of the year, up until September 1984, Israel's debts abroad grew by $1,817 million. Between September 1983 and September 1984, the short-term loan part of Israel's overall debts grew from 13.5 percent to 16.3 percent.

Knesset Finance Committee Approves Travel Tax Hike

TA130931 Tel Aviv IDF Radio in Hebrew 0925 GMT 13 Feb 85

[Text] By a majority vote, the Knesset Finance Committee approved the raising of the travel tax to $150, as well as the 20 percent tax on travel tickets. If the finance minister signs the orders today, travelers will have to pay an increased tax as of 17 February.

More Funds Allocated to Religious Institutions

TA130528 Jerusalem Domestic Service in Hebrew 0500 GMT 13 Feb 85

[Text] The Finance Ministry will transfer another $3 million — besides the $8 million intended for distribution in the framework of the special allocations of the Religious Affairs Ministry — via the Education Ministry to religious institutions and yeshivas affiliated with Agudat Yisra'el, SHAS, and Morasha. Our correspondent Hayim Zissowitz notes that Agudat Yisra'el Knesset Members Shapira and Porush demanded that the aid be increased and the Treasury complied, also increasing the allocations for SHAS and Morasha. The National Religious Party is dissatisfied with the distribution of the allocated sums according to the number of Knesset members.

ALGERIA

Further Reportage on Visit of Jordan's Husayn

Talks Begin

LD122203 Algiers Domestic Service in Arabic 1900 GMT 12 Feb 85

[Excerpts] King Husayn ibn Talal, the monarch of the Hashemite Kingdom of Jordan, arrived in Algiers on a friendly working visit. He was welcomed at the airport by FLN secretary general and president, Chadli Bendjedid.

At the airport VIP lounge, King Husayn made a statement to the press in which he said: I am happy to have this opportunity to visit Algeria, which is dear to our hearts, and to meet with my brother, President Chadli Bendjedid, to discuss matters pertaining to cooperation and the future of the Arab nation.

After praising Algeria's efforts and its important role at Arab and international levels in support of international just causes, King Husayn expressed his pleasure at the excellent relations between the two fraternal peoples and countries.

King Husayn is accompanied on this visit by Prime Minister and Minister of Defense Ahmad 'Ubaydat; Army Staff Commander General al-Sharif Zayd ibn Shakir; Chief of the Royal Court, Marwan al-Qasim; Foreign Minister Tahir al-Masri; and Minister of the Royal Court, 'Adnan Abu 'Awdah.

Political talks opened this afternoon at the Presidency of the Republic between President Chadli Bendjedid and King Husayn ibn Talal of Jordan, and were later expanded to include members of the delegations of the two countries.

Further on Talks

JN122124 Amman Domestic Service in Arabic 2100 GMT 12 Feb 85

[Text] Algiers — The Jordanian-Algerian summit talks began in Algiers this evening. His Majesty King Husayn and Algerian President Chadli Bendjedid held a bilateral meeting, and then an expanded meeting attended by the members of the Jordanian and Algerian sides.

The two sides reviewed the current general Arab situation and the status of the Palestine question in light of the latest developments in the Arab and international arenas. Arab relations were reviewed and adequate means to rebuild Arab cooperation and joint Arab action in the service of pan-Arab objectives and the higher interests of the Arab nation were discussed. The talks also dealt with the strong fraternal ties and means of coordination and cooperation between the two fraternal countries.

President Bendjedid held a dinner banquet in honor of King Husayn attended by members of the accompanying delegation and several senior Algerian officials.

French Official Interviewed on Results of Talks

LD121649 Algiers Domestic Service in French 1200 GMT 12 Feb 85

[Text] French Minister of External Relations Roland Dumas ended his visit to Algiers this morning. He was seen off by our minister of foreign affairs, Taleb Ibrahimi.

Roland Dumas was to be received before his departure this morning by President Chadli Bendjedid. The French minister of external relations, who also held talks with his counterpart Taleb Ibrahimi, then replied to questions put to him by Haleb Boukkabesh:

[Begin recording] [Boukkabesh] On the subject of Algerian-French cooperation: As we are right in the middle of the eighties, what are the prospects for this cooperation?

[Dumas] I find that cooperation between our two countries is going well; we each are aware of our past joint history with its ups and downs. We have now settled into a new type of relation between our two sovereign and independent states which perfectly suits the modern age. I have noted, for example, that in 1984 the trade exchanges between our two countries are in balance, which may constitute a firm basis on which to undertake a new phase in economic relations. Cooperation on all levels and in all sectors is going well, be it the matter of exchanges, technical cooperation, or the presence of our teachers. I note that all these developments have gotten off to a very good start and can only continue in the right direction.

[Boukkabesh] Concerning the Western Sahara issue, Mr Jospin stated yesterday that the French Socialist Party was in contact with the parties concerned and might, if asked, suggest proposals for a solution. What do you think about this?

[Dumas] Well, we did not come to an agreement with Mr Jospin before my trip, but it will not surprise you if I tell you that I completely share his views. In fact, I spoke at length with the Algerian minister of foreign affairs about this problem, which worries all friendly countries and France in particular. I have said, and I will repeat, that in this matter France is always available — that is to say, it will not shy away if it can be useful in helping to find the paths of peace. Mr Jospin, in his capacity as leader of the Socialist Party, has said the same thing.

The Socialist Party is one entity and the government is another, although we may be very close to one another; and I note with pleasure that we are working in the same direction. I hope that this will be able to happen one day.

Communique Issued on Ghanaian Leader's Visit

LD122246 Algiers Domestic Service in Arabic 1900 GMT 12 Feb 85

[Text] Jerry John Rawlings, chairman of the Provisional National Defense Council and head of the state of Ghana, left Algeria today at the end of an official 3-day visit, during which he held talks with the FLN secretary general and president of the Republic, Chadli Bendjedid, who saw him off at Boumediene

International Airport, together with a number of members of the Political Bureau, the government and the diplomatic corps accredited to Algeria.

The visit was crowned with the issuance of a Ghanaian-Algerian joint communique which says that the two sides affirm their adherance to the OAU and their commitment to the implementation of the principles and objectives of its Charter. The two sides expressed their common determination to bolster and strengthen the African organization, the sole tool capable of liberating and developing the African Continent.

The two sides expressed their concern over the continuation of the conflict in the Western Sahara and their conviction that a settlement of this conflict lies in the holding of early negotiations between Morocco and the Polisario in accordance with the resolutions of the OAU and the United Nations.

With regard to the situation in Africa, the joint communique recorded the two countries's denunciation of the imperialist maneuvers aimed at the continued support of the racist South African regime with a view to impeding the struggle of Namibia and escalating aggression against the countries of [words indistinct].

The joint communique also points out that relations between the two countries were discussed. [Words indistinct] the two sides affirmed the need for bolstering and diversifying them. The two sides affirmed that contacts at all levels will bolster the atmosphere of consultation and understanding which distinguishes the relations between Algeria and Ghana.

With regard to the Middle East situation, the two sides reiterated their unlimited support for the struggle of the Palestinian people for their right to self-determination and the establishment of their independent state on their own soil. They affirmed that no peace can be established in the area without the effective participation of the PLO, the sole, legitimate representative of the Palestine people, and the withdrawal of the Zionist forces from all the occupied Arab territories. The two sides also expressed their concern over the continuation of the Iraqi-Iranian war and addressed an appeal for an end to this bloody conflict for the sublime good of both peoples.

Messaadia Holds Talks With Jospin, Mitterand

For reportage on the visit of FLN Politburo member Mohamed Cherif Messaadia to France, including his meetings with French leaders Jospin and Mitterrand, see the 13 February West Europe *DAILY REPORT* and subsequent issues.

LIBYA

Al-Qadhdhafi Meets Palestinian Commanders

LD130814 Tripoli Voice of Greater Arab Homeland in Arabic 0015 GMT 13 Feb 85

[Text] The brother commander of the revolution has met with commanders of the national Palestinian alliance and reviewed wth them the steps for unification of the ranks of the Palestine resistance and the escalation of the armed struggle against the opposing alliance.

This is the fourth meeting between the brother commander of the revolution and the commanders of the national Palestinian alliance in the series of meetings being held to amass capabilities against the common enemy of the Arab nation.

The meeting was attended by Staff Major 'Abd al-Salam Ahmad Jallud and Brigadier Abu Bakr Yunis Jabir, commander in chief of the Libyan Armed Forces.

Egyptian Afro-Asian Committee Departs 12 Feb

LD121841 Tripoli JANA in English 1750 GMT 12 Feb 85

[Text] Tripoli, 22 Jumada Awal, 12 Feb, JAMAHIRIYAH NEWS AGENCY — At noon today the delegation of the Egyptian Committee for Afro-Asian Solidarity left Tripoli at the end of its visit to the Socialist People's Libyan Arab Jamahiryah that lasted several days.

Joint Statement Issued

LD131045 Tripoli JANA in English 0836 GMT 13 Feb 85

[Text] Tripoli, 23 Jumada Awal, 13 Feb, JAMAHIRIYAH NEWS AGENCY — A joint statement was issued yesterday following the sessions of the Egyptian National Afro-Asian Solidarity Committee and the Libyan National Afro-Asian Solidarity Committee that took place in Tripoli. Following is the text of the statement:

1) To demonstrate the Arab mass struggle for liberating and uniting the Arab homeland;

2) To confront the American imperialist-Zionist-reactionary designs that aim to bring back the Arab homeland to the spheres of imperialist domination;

a) Politically: reactivation of the policy of pacts;
b) Militarily: establishment of permanent and mobile land, air and naval military bases, and
c) Culturally: reactivation of sectarian tendancies and deformation of national awareness, the civilized image of the Arab national identity and the Arab masses' identification with their civilization;

3) To express solidarity with the Arab mass forces.

The Socialist People's Libyan Arab Jamahiriyah received a people's delegation from the Afro-Asian Solidarity Committee in Egypt between 6-11 February 1985, in response to an invitation by the Libyan Arab Committee for Afro-Asian Solidarity.

The two delegations discussed the political developments in the Arab homeland arena, the struggle of liberation and unity by the Arab masses against dangers threatening the Arab nation, the continuation of imperialist conspiracy particularly the American design and the Zionist aggression, an aggression aiming at

disintegrating the Arab national entity and at controlling the political and economic potentials of the Arab nation.

The two delegations also reviewed African peoples' struggle with special reference to the people of southern Africa and Namibia and the struggle of the people in Asia and Latin America, peoples that are fighting for liberation from the domination of imperialism and racist and fascist regimes.

The two delegations outlined their responsibilities concerning strengthening the struggle of the peoples in Africa, Asia and Latin America, an effort that would express the united stand of the Arab nation over the issue of struggle, its outstanding role in assisting the struggle for freedom and its solidarity with the oppressed fighting for freedom.

The delegation of the Egyptian Afro-Asian Solidarity Committee personally toured the political, social and economic civilized achievements carried out by the people of the Socialist People's Libyan Arab Jamahiriyah, achievements that manifest the determination of the Arab character to free itself from colonialism and imperialist domination.

The delegation listened to a detailed explanation on the ideological principles of the mass society, on the practice of the people for people's authority through people's congresses and committees and on the possession by the people of wealth and weapons. The delegation highly appreciated this effort as a manifestation for the support of Arab masses' struggle for liberation and unity.

The Egyptian delegation presented a review on the struggle of Egyptian people against imperialism, Zionism and all forms of foreign influence and highlighted the positive dimensions of this process. The delegation of the Libyan Arab committee appreciated this review with attention. The delegation of the Libyan Solidarity Committee expressed its secondment to the nomination of the chairman of the Egyptian Committee for Solidarity Ustaz Ahmad Hamrush for the chairperson post of the Afro-Asian Solidarity Committee.

The two sides stressed the following:

1) Out of national duty, the focusing point of the national entity of the Arab masses throughout the Arab land, the two delegations would like hereby to stress the necessity for the acceleration of the struggle for unity, the historic condition for liberating the Arab character from colonialism and imperialist domination. Hence, they would like to denounce all imperialist, Zionist and reactionary designs that aim to disintegrate the national entity through the reactivation of sectarian, ethnic and factional tendencies in the Arab world.

2) To stress the significance and importance of the national responsibility the two delegations would like hereby emphasize the need for support to the Palestinian revolution, for the sake of the realization of the goals of the Palestinian people, under the leadership of the Palestinian Liberation Front, the legitimate and the only representative of the Palestinian people. The two delegations confirmed the need for the unity of the Palestinian revolution factions and the continuation for the use of all forms of struggle, particularly the armed struggle, that should not halt.

3) The two delegations praised the struggle of the Lebanese Arab people and its brave resistance to the Zionist presence, emphasized the unity of Lebanon's land and people and the protection of its freedom and independence, and announce the commitment to support the Lebanese national resistance through all means.

4) The two delegations announce their total support to the brave stand of the Socialist People's Libyan Arab Jamahiriyah in resisting the American imperialist conspiracies, the blatant provocations by the Reagan administration against the Jamahiriyah people and all forms of economic and military pressures.

5) The two delegations praise the role of the people of Egypt and their sacrifices for the sake of supporting the national liberation revolutions, and would like to appreciate its firm stand in resisting all forms of pressure exercised on it following the signature of the Camp David stable accords, and its political, economic and cultural consequences. They appreciate the stands taken by the Egyptian people to avoid the David stable approach.

6) They appreciate the stand of the Syrian Arab people in resisting the imperialist and Zionist attack that aims to undermine the determination of the Arab nation and to force Syria to kneel down.

7) The two delegations announce their support to the revolutionary struggle launched by the people of South Africa and Namibia against the imperialist-racist conspiracy, confirm their commitment to the struggle of the people in Africa, Asia and Latin America against facist dictatorial regime and denounce the American policies in the world, particularly the policy of the deployment of American nuclear missiles in the Mediterranean Sea and in Europe, a policy that will lead to the increase of tension in international relations.

8) The promotion of relations between the two Arab committees in Egypt and Jamahiriyah within the framework of the Afro-Asian Solidarity Committee and the setting up of projects that would strengthen their role in the struggle.

9) The two delegations call on the Afro-Asian Solidarity Committees throughout the world to contribute financially and technically to assist the African people that are suffering from drought and hunger, to express the belief that the future of the people throughout the world is related and interacted.

MOROCCO

Polish Trade Official Arrives for Talks

LD121318 Rabat MAP in English 1202 GMT 12 Feb 85

[Text] Rabat, Feb 12 (MAP) — Polish vice-minister of foreign trade, Mr Ryszard Strzelecki arrived here Monday evening leading an important delegation for an official visit to Morocco to meet several members of the Moroccan Cabinet.

Upon arrival, Mr Strzelecki told the press that he will confer with Moroccan officials on the different aspects of commercial cooperation between Morocco and Poland. The Polish vice-minister of foreign trade added that his visit will also enable the

two parties to identify "the means to strengthen this cooperation and further promote it." Mr Strzelecki underlined in this respect that the economies of the two countries have numerous affinities and exchanges should be based on complementarity.

Confers With Prime Minister

LD122255 Rabat Domestic Service in Arabic 1900 GMT 12 Feb 85

[Text] Prime Minister Muhammad Karim al-Lamrani met in his office with Polish Deputy Minister of Foreign Trade Ryzard Strzelecki, who was accompanied by the Polish ambassador. During the meeting Morocco-Polish cooperation was evaluated. The discussion also dealt with the scope for the development of this cooperation, especially in the sphere of economic exchanges. The meeting was attended by the Minister of Commerce, Industry, and Tourism Azzedine Guessous and a number of officials of the Cherifien phosphate office.

At the Ministry of Cooperation talks between the Polish deputy minister and Secretary General of the Ministry of Cooperation Ahmad Rahmani focused on the facets of cooperation between the two countries and the possibility of its future consolidation by creating more trade exchange between the two countries.

SUDAN

Foreign Minister 'Uthman Addresses Assembly

JN121630 Khartoum SUNA in Arabic 1420 GMT 12 Feb 85

[Text] Khartoum, 12 Feb (SUNA) — Foreign Minister Hashim 'Uthman has stressed that Sudan's foreign policy is based on its personality and heritage, geographical and historical considerations, the National Action Charter, the permanent Constitution, the third presidential term's comprehensive political program, as well as on the requirements of regional and international circumstances that affect our country and are affected by it, especially as Sudan is surrounded by eight countries with different moods, principles, and races.

In a statement before the People's Assembly yesterday on his ministry's foreign policy and diplomatic moves over past months to achieve the goals of the Islamic trend, the foreign minister explained that Sudan's policy is based on its national sovereignty and territorial integrity, noninterfrerence in other countries' domestic affairs, respect for resolutions of international and regional organizations of which Sudan is a member, action to liquidate colonialism, opposition to racial discrimination, strengthening human rights principles, adhering to the policy of neighborliness, employing Sudan's diplomacy to serve development in Sudan, and continuing Sudan's role in the Nonaligned Movement to keep the movement away from polarization.

The foreign minister said that Sudan's foreign policy is reflected in the principles of the May revolution, pointing out that Sudan continues to participate in Arab action because of its strong belief in its affiliation with the Arab nation and in the justice of Arab causes, foremost of which is the Palestine question. He pointed out that Sudan has called for PLO unity and independence, and that the key Middle East issue is the Palestinian people's struggle to regain their legitimate rights.

He also reviewed Sudan's efforts to restore Arab solidarity, stressing that the Syrian and Libyan positions in the Arab arena have greatly harmed Arab action. No effective Arab summit has been convened recently because of these two countries' pesitions on the Iraq-Iran war, their opposition to Egypt's return to the Arab fold, and their attempts to dominate Palestinian decison-making.

Hashim 'Uthman stressed the president's eagerness for Sudan to participate in Islamic summit conferences under all circumstances, pointing out his efforts to maintain Chad's territorial integrity and national sovereignty and to support the Muslim Afghan people's struggle. He also pointed to Sudan's efforts to restore Egypt's membership in the ICO. He reviewed Sudan's role in the recent conference in Sanaa of the Islamic foreign ministers, where he explained the reasons for applying Islamic law in Sudan and the savage information onslought against Sudan.

He reviewed Sudan's efforts to end the Gulf war and support the Palestinian people's struggle, the Afghan people, and liberation movements in Africa. He also explained the Sudanese delegation's role at the conference in reviewing the economic situation in Africa and its confrontation of some sides that tried to hamper Egypt's activity in the ICO.

The foreign minister stressed that the uniust propaganda campaigns to which Sudan is being subjected and the plots being concocted against its national unity require an efficient Sudanese presence abroad. For this reason, he said, the president has decided to reopen some embassies that had been closed for economic reasons.

He reviewed efforts to confront the unjust propaganda campaigns against Sudan and the role of the ministerial committee that was formed in this regard, as well the fraternal countries' understanding of Sudan's explanations of the nature of the legislative revolution aimed at creating a Muslim society.

The foreign minister reviewed the tasks of our diplomatic missions abroad. He said they defend our Islamic trends, take care of our Sudanese citizens abroad, link them to the homeland, and protect them from false information propagated by some tendentious circles.

Hashim 'Uthman touched on efforts being exerted by the Foreign Ministry to contain drought and desertification within the framework of efforts being exerted by other state organs. He praised the role played by the Sudanese delegation at meetings held between the Pacific, Caribbean, African economic group and the European economic group — meetings which resulted in a special item on fighting drought and desertification in the Third Lome Agreement between the two groups in December. The minister pointed out that the ministry made contacts in this respect with the general commissioner for refugees and with the UN program for relief from catastrophes. He said there is complete understanding and identity of viewpoints between the ministry and those circles.

The minister explained that the past period witnessed intensive activity to make diplomacy help our country overcome the tribulations of drought and desertification by obtaining foreign aid. This was done by creating international and regional awareness of the enormity of the problem through bilateral contacts and the media.

Regarding pan-Arab action, the minister affirmed Sudan's desire to contribute to the work of the Arab League and its specialized agencies. The minister said that Sudan continues to call for the need to amend the Arab League Charter to make it conform to modern changes and also to apply the principle of majority vote in Arab League decisions so that these decisions are more in tune with events in the world today.

The minister affirmed that Egypt's return to the Arab fold is a major factor for the restoration of Arab soldiarity in view of its political, humanitarian, and historical role. The minister expressed Sudan's satisfaction with the return of diplomatic relations between Egypt and Jordan.

Regarding African affairs, the minister said that Sudan is aware of the historic role it assumes in view of its strategic position in the African Continent. He said Sudan continues to exert efforts to establish neighborly relations with Uganda and the Central African Republic. Sudan also endeavors to establish close ties with those countries with which it has common interests by means of setting up bilateral and trilateral regional committees to consolidate commercial, economic, and cultural ties.

The minister explained that Sudan has established bilateral committees with countries such as Zaire, Uganda, Kenya, and Ethiopia. He said that Sudan has sought to hold a meeting of the joint ministerial committee with Ethiopia in order to solve existing differences between the two countries, but there has been no response from officials in Ethiopia.

The minister spoke about Sudan's role in the 20th African summit conference held in November in Addis Ababa. He said Sudan exerted every effort to preserve the unity of the OAU and to keep out of existing conflicts and divisions. He said that Sudan made proposals concerning the Chadian question, and that the OAU's decision was in harmony with Sudan's stand on backing legality in Chad. The minister reviewed the Sudanese delegation's efforts to achieve economic cooperation in dealing with the economic and natural disasters facing the African Continent, including the refugee problem.

The minister also spoke about Sudan's efforts to turn the Red Sea into a lake of peace and security away from world power struggles.

Regarding international affairs, the minister said that regional and international organizations have recently witnessed intensive activities. He outlined his statement before the 39th session of the UN General Assembly concenring the application of Islamic law in the country and Sudan's stand on various international issues.

He also reviewed his deliberations with African foreign ministers on bilateral relations.

SPLA Radio Reports 46 Soldiers Killed in Ambushes

LD121442 (Clandestine) Radio of the Sudanese People's Liberation Army in English 1300 GMT 12 Feb 85

[Text] Forty-six enemy soldiers were killed and 19 others wounded in a series of ambushes carried out by the Sudanese People's Liberation Army's [SPLA] Rhino Battalion, which is commanded by Lt Col (P.F.C. Martin Makur Aleo) in Lakes Province on 9 February 1985. The SPLA lost four heroes killed in action and five wounded.

The first ambush took place at (Bahr Na'am). SPLA units of Rhino Battalion commanded by Lt Garang Lake attacked a government convoy at 0700 on 9 February 1985. The enemy losses were 5 killed and 17 wounded; 1 SPLA fighter was slightly wounded in the engagement.

At 0900 at a point 5 miles from (Bahr Na'am) units of the SPLA Rhino Battalion under the command of Lt Fiji Mayal and Lt Elijah Biye Kwal attacked an enemy convoy, resulting in the death of 17 enemy soldiers and 2 wounded. The SPLA sustained three heroes killed in action and two wounded.

At 1100 at Torit station units of Rhino Battalion commanded by Lt John Maker Aywal raided the enemy forces. The enemy losses were 15 killed and an unknown number wounded. One SPAL fighter was wounded in the engagement.

At 1300 at (Fatar Sin) units of Rhino Battalion under the command of Lt Peter Manywat and Lt Abduh Deng Nyok ambushed an enemy convoy resulting in the death of nine enemy soldiers and an unknown number wounded. One SPLA hero was killed in action and another wounded in the attack.

TUNISIA

President Receives Messages From Sudan, Angola

LD121826 Tunis TAP in French 1320 GMT 12 Feb 85

[Text] Tunis, 12 Feb (TAP) — President Habib Bourguiba today received Beji Caid Essebsi, the Tunisian minister of foreign affairs, who conveyed to him a message from the Sudanese President, Ja'far Muhammad Numayri and a message from the president of Angola, concerning the situation in southern Africa.

President Bourguiba also signed a message to President Julius Nyerere, current chairman of the OAU.

WESTERN SAHARA

Communique Issued on Hassan's 'Masquerade'

LD122146 Algiers Domestic Service in French 1830 GMT 12 Feb 85

[Text] The Saharan Democratic Arab Republic [SDAR] and the Polisario Front call on countries who have diplomatic representations in Rabat to abstain from participating in the masquerade organized for 3 March in connection with King Hassan II's visit to occupied El-Aaiun.

A communique by the Saharan Information Ministry draws the attention of the international community to the repression unleashed by the occupation forces against the Saharan civilian population in anticipation of this visit, considered as a [words indistinct] of legality. It is not the first time for a colonialist to visit a territory he occupies by force at a moment of critical importance for him, the communique notes. It recalls the serious economic crisis suffered by Morocco as a result of the war and the king's need to mislead international public opinion through a so-called display of his grip of the situation on the field.

In conclusion, the Saharan Information Ministry refuses to accept any responsibility for the human and material losses caused to foreign citizens who violate the borders and the sovereignty of the SDAR.

ETHIOPIA

Mengistu Haile Mariam Addresses Nation 9 Feb

EA1111955 Addis Ababa Domestic Service in Amharic 1700 GMT 9 Feb 85

["Text" of 9 February address to the nation by Mengistu Haile Mariam, secretary general of the Workers Party of Ethiopia Central Committee, PMAC chairman, and commander in chief of Ethiopian Armed Forces — recorded]

[Excerpts] Dear revolutionary Ethiopian workers, farmers, scholars, members of our revolutionary Armed Forces, and proletariat of my country: A decade has elapsed since the new Ethiopian generation entered the new world political arena by opening a new historic chapter. Although a decade is a very short time for a people with a long history, it is nonetheless replete with memories, for during this decade we underwent new, arduous, and victorious processes. We shall always remember it, because we surmounted very dangerous situations. In general, the past decade has been for us a time of very challenging situations, which we overcame with very great sacrifices and victories [words indistinct]. The period will be remembered in our long history as a clear chapter of great national and revolutionary activities.

By virtue of the responsibilities and obligations the people and history have invested in me, I have at various times and occasions during the past decade responded to our revolutionary motherland's call by defining the causes and nature of problems and laying down measures to be taken. By virtue of the sacrifices made in the course of our decisive revolutionary and popular actions to solve such challenging problems, the results achieved have been satisfactory. I have, accordingly, at various times presented the results of our victories.

As I said earlier, although we have faced many difficulties, we have got where we are by fighting hard for our principles and making the necessary sacrifices. It was by virtue of the strong arm of the broad masses that we were able to march forward victoriously. I am therefore very proud of the broad masses as makers of history.

Dear compatriots, the problems we have faced and overcome were much more complex and difficult than the situation in which we now find ourselves. At that time, apart from the popular unrest which resulted from many years of oppression and various vested interests, there had never been any coordination of principles and action, proper conscientious evaluation of material situations, or popular political culture and revolutionary experience. Moreover, it was a time during which various anti-people forces rose up from within and without and when we had to defend ourselves against growing reaction, it was while terrorism and unrest were the order of the day.

Today, we have totally transformed that situation. Having experienced that challenging struggle and process of victory, we have become a people with great revolutionary experience. We have reached a stage where we can distinguish our enemies from our friends, understand properly the reasons for our poverty and backwardness, and make plans and programs for the gradual accomplishment of our popular objectives. We can agitate and organize bodies of the new political system in all sectors to enable us to implement our plans. In particular, we have made the party the axis of the new political system and the vanguard of all the working people and in thus doing have created the guarantee for the fulfillment of the goals of our popular objectives.

In general, our bitter struggle of the past decade opened the first chapter of the history of the new Ethiopia. The victories we won are not only national, but, we believe, clear contributions toward world peace and social prosperity with particular relevance to the international revolutionary movement to bring about the supremacy of the world's workers.

In this respect, the last quarter of 1984 was a period of great satisfaction for us, because during it we created the Workers Party of Ethiopia as the concrete vanguard of our future development process. It is well known that our satisfaction is the result of a transition from one development stage into another and not that of achieving the final stage of our popular objective. It was a time when we looked forward with bright hopes to winning various victories in the coming years by virtue of a new zeal for struggle from our party's leadership.

Now is the time for a new chapter of struggle, for a new struggle plan, and for a new development program. Clearly this is the opposite of what our enemies want. The broad masses of Ethiopia know very well that our victory is a defeat for our enemies and our satisfaction and happiness is our enemies' setback and dismay. That is because what is sweet to us is bitter to them. They will never stand by to watch us fulfil our needs and achieve our goals. On the contrary, they will plan every possible act of destruction and to implement their plans, they will exploit every aspect of weakness we may have.

Our struggle is not only against our class enemies but against time and nature, which we have not yet been able to master. All these factors combined exert great pressure on our progress. The natural problem has, at an early stage, damaged our new chapter of struggle, which we had embarked on better organized and with great hopes for development. Generally speaking, our country faces a serious and ugly problem. I transmit the revolutionary motherland's call to overcome it with our customary decisiveness and invincibility.

Dear compatriots, we recognized at the outset that the responsibility and historic duty of this revolutionary generation were greater and broader than those of the past generation. It is a generation's historic duty to fight against every obstacle obstructing that generation's progress toward a higher stage of development. The ability of any society to develop its standard of living must be applied not only to overcoming man-made obstacles and pressures but also to taming nature to ensure uninterrupted production. Success in this respect depends on the nature of the means of production that a given society has at its disposal. If the society has a good means of production and utilizes it properly, that society can become self-sufficient and even produce a surplus. If, on the other hand, the means of production is retarded, the society's ability to develop and produce will be limited. Far from being able to earn or produce a

surplus to be used for development, such a society will be vulnerable to any man-made or natural disaster, for it will lack a balance between its capacities and its needs.

A society's work, thinking, and ability to interpret, which are fundamental to social development and balanced progress, depend on the nature of the means of production. Generally speaking, the state of the means of production constitutes the major criterion of a society's stage of material or spiritual development. Accordingly, every generation has the natural duty to create conditions for better development, the quality and rate of change being determined by the material and spiritual wealth which that generation has inherited. The development of any society is based on its heritage from the preceding generation. The development effort facing the Ethiopian working people cannot be divorced from the general rules governing social life. In this respect, it is very important to understand the facts of the situation facing us, to change it, and to know what sacrifices we shall have to make. To do so, we must examine our material and spiritual heritage and history.

Proletarians of my country, when, with a social development scale we measure that which our revolution inherited from the former system, we find that the greater part of it is backwardness. Why was our society exposed for so long to such an ugly and bitter situation? And now, having followed our revolution's correct development path, albeit only briefly, why is our social development lagging behind? As is well known, our country has a long history. The outstanding fact of that long history is its citizens' struggle for its freedom against expanionists, invaders, and colonialists. Accordingly, the preservation of our country's national integrity and freedom is examplary, not only for us but for other people too. This long history of struggle for our country's freedom has left us a prestigious heritage of fighting gallantly for the freedom of our country.

That is one side of the picture of our country. The other side of our history shows that our development has not been graced with the peace needed for social development. Our country is not only ancient, but is among those where civilization began. It was one of the first or the very first where agriculture began. Historians and agronomists confirm that apart from its famous coffee, cereals now common in the world, such as wheat and barley, were first found in Ethiopia.

The development of Ethiopia, which attained an acclaimed civilization at one time, was, as I said earlier, halted by lack of stability and peace in its history. Historical records show that up to the defeat of the fascist invaders, Ethiopia suffered no less than 40 invasions and attacks. From civil wars and conflicts it suffered more than double the number of foreign invasions. It was the conflicts of the feudalists themselves that created conditions conducive to most of the foreign invasions and internal social instabilities. The constant conflicts and wars afflicting our country from within and without caused us vast loss of life and reduced our material and spiritual heritage, so essential for our country's future social development. They prevented the broad masses from engaging in peaceful production to raise their living standards. For this reason the development of the means of production and of the forces of production were halted. Foreign relations which could have helped to activate the economy were throttled by the pressures of war. In fact, foreign trade relations hardly existed.

This general situation and lack of security imposed an irregular pattern of settlement. As is known, up to 80 percent of the population live in the country's highlands. Such areas, being mostly mountainous and rugged, are not as favorable for agricultural activities as other parts of the country. It was because people were forced to settle in those areas in such high concentrations that problems arose. They chose those placed to avoid foreign invaders and local feudal conflicts. With the population explosion and private ownership of land, these mountainous and rugged areas became even more thickly populated and even higher mountains had to be used for agriculture. Thus, forest highlands enjoying high rainfall gradually began to deteriorate, becoming a major cause of soil erosion and diminishing water resources, which caused the expansion of drought. Historical records show that drought began to become a problem in our country in the 9th century. Such records show that the drought situation, coupled with the population explosion and the destruction of forest resources, became progressively uglier and more deeply rooted.

It is known that between the 16th and 19th centuries alone, there were about 20 great or serious droughts. From the 9th century up to the eruption of our revolution, drought came at least once every 10 years and the consequent famines became a scourge to many millions of the country's citizens and animals. Our people repeatedly faced attack by foreign invasions and internal feudal conflicts, coupled with rising drought and disease. The fact that in the face of such a cruel life, illiteracy and retarded social development, the people engaged in a complex struggle to achieve security and well-being needs no elaboration. It was at that time that they were doomed to be among the few peoples to become the first targets of fascist aggression.

Our historical heritage, built up by many generations, was destroyed, but the country's freedom was restored by the bitter sacrifices of the broad masses. Despite this, the government was again taken over by the feudalists. Instead of looking for ways and means of helping the people to rehabilitate and advance their blocked development, the feudal rulers spent their time on furthering their own interests. Using the basic communications and roads built by fascists, the fuedalists grabbed rural and urban land, and divided the people, through illiteracy, to prevent them from organizing themselves in opposition. That is a clear picture of the Ethiopia of a decade ago, which the revolutionary generation acquired, together with its material and spiritual heritage, from the previous system.

The defense of a nation by the people's united arms, gallant patriotism, and sacrifices in the protection of freedom is a great and ineluctable historic duty. [Words indistinct] we would not have been able to create a society enjoying balanced peace and social prosperity, regardless of our collective determination to do so.

The historical process of development demands time for its fulfillment; it is very difficult to accomplish haphazardly. Our situation is a living example of the magnitude of the sacrifice required to bring about development and progress when starting

from backwardness. In this century, general backwarness characterizes the latest stage of the development process. It is not only us — there are many countries struggling to emerge from such a situation. It is doubtful, however, if the complex problems and backwardness we have inherited are paralleled. Accordingly, apart from improving conditions in order to transform the reactionary system's means of production, it is our task to create a starting point for development, one which is very difficult to implement. The historic task with which this revolutionary generation is charged is to transform conditions in all fields, to engage in a new manner of planning, and to start afresh. This is why we constantly reiterate the fact that this revolutionary generation's responsibility is very much broader and greater than that of any former generation.

At the very time when we were struggling to change the various ugly faces of the country and trying to set up new social development foundations, we were forced to face the hurt caused by natural problems and class enemies opposed to our popular objectives. As is well known, one of the reasons for the eruption of the Ethiopian broad masses' revolution was the obvious famine and catastrophe caused by drought in Welo, Tigray, and northern Shew.

One of the major tasks undertaken at an early stage of our revolution was to publicize to the broad masses and to the international community the need for fast remedial action to combat the famine and holocaust which the feudal ruling class had kept secret and to which it had not tried to find a solution. Particularly, by forming the Relief and Rehabilitation Commission it became possible to get control over a very dangerous situation.

Many may think that, since then, there has only been drought. This year, the situation has not been deplorable because of continuous efforts. But the problem has never left us. From 1975 to 1984, we were making available comprehensive, daily relief aid for an average of 3 million compatriots every year. In addition to the drought problem, in the north, south, and eastern part of our country, on top of liberating the people robbed and evicted from their homes by outside invaders and internal antipeople and antirevolution terrorists, we have been making available comprehensive, daily relief aid for up to 8 million people [figure as heard].

Since we could not have solved the problems of our compatriots caused by nature and reactionaries just with relief aid, in addition to liberating them and protecting their security, we have been rehabilitating the majority of them in their former areas by providing daily food, seed, farm equipment, and household goods and by helping them build houses. The action we have taken in resettling more than 200,000 compatriots, who were affected by drought again and again and could not be rehabilitated in their own area due to its uselessness, those who could not live in peace and produce, and those who were suffering in many of our towns due to unemployment, cannot be seen as a small achievement. The efforts made to coordinate the participation of the people themselves and the government — material and financial support to enable the settlers to improve their resettlement area by afforestation, soil conservation, clean drinking water, road construction, and health service — must be given high priority.

In addition to resettling drought affected farmers and unemployed people, there are many other similar tasks being undertaken. In Eritrea and in some regional towns, there are not less than 30,000 workers who were working in productive institutions that were destroyed by antipeople and that had stopped producing because of insecurity; we had to pay these people salaries and other benefits without work in order to make sure their lives were not disrupted. We had to repair and replace production, administration, and social service institutions, roads, water, and electric supplies destroyed by traitors and invaders.

In addition to supplying rations and arms to our revolutionary Army, protecting their country and revolution from the antipeople's white terror and attacks from outside invaders by sacrificing their lives, and for our forces fighting alongside the Army on many fronts and defending the country, we had to gather in and take care of our patriots who were disabled while fighting for their country and revolution and their orphans. These conditions are not over, so we have to make yet more effort and sacrifice.

It is now a time when the price of production equipment, vehicles and spare parts, petrol and oil, medicine, and other consumer goods from rich countries have skyrocketed and, on the other hand, the price for raw materials from the developing countries has gone down, and, in general, the international economic situation is in crisis. We have publicized on different occasions the development work achieved in various sectors and plans formulated for future development in revolutionary Ethiopia. On the other hand, we are waging a struggle against backwardness, reactionaries, and nature. In addition, our action was presented in detail in the 10-year prespective plan and in the central report to the founding congress of our party. For this reason, I do not think it is necessary to repeat it on this occasion. What we have to realize is that even if all these plans are realized, we cannot even satisfy our food needs.

As is well known, agriculture is the center pole of our economy and guarantee of our progress. While our guaranteed wealth is land and the peasants, who are not only the majority of our people but also occupy the largest part of the country, and while they have freedom of producing without any restriction or domination since we removed those robbers and oppressors who were exploiting them by forcing them to pay a one-third tithe for the soil, for the chief, for the priest, and so on, it is very saddening that, in some places, they have not been able to satisfy their requirements because of out-of-date farming equipment and systems that depend on nature only and on disorganized production.

Produce from our regions where we say there are potential farmers could not even satisfy less than 14 percent of our population living in towns. The problem of unemployment could not be solved as we wished because there was no income from the peasant and government farms as had been expected, and other parts of our economy did not develop to open up employment opportunities for our compatriots. Instead of getting raw materials for industry and capital for our general development from our agriculture-based economy, today we are importing food, and, beyond that, we have become destitute. At our stage of development, there is no reliable source other than the agricultural sector for income or capital which is needed for our economic progress.

For this reason, the lagging of growth in the agricultural sector means lack of development to earn foreign exchange, which is vital for raw materials to develop our industry and for the progress of our general construction effort.

If we ask ourselves why at the very least we could not satisfy our food needs when a large part of our land and 85 percent of the country's work force is employed in farming, we realize what a backward condition we are in.

In addition to this truth, like our forefathers, we are also unlucky not to have complete peace. Even today a fierce armed struggle for which we pay a very high sacrifice of lives, money, and material is going on. It is to protect the honor and territory of our country, which was respected by the sacrifice of millions and millions from generation to generation; it is for our unity and to make sure that the system of divide and oppress which we broke into pieces and threw away 10 years ago will not come back. For these reasons, the obstacles to our speeding up national progress are not only inherited backwardness and natural ones. Even though we have encountered natural problems related to backwardness, the situation was favorable enough to enable us to solve them step by step because our struggle was based on the people's revolutionary movement whose mission it is to change all this.

But the struggle we are waging against those threatening the well-being of our country and revolution is a struggle against imperialism and the reactionaries who are behind them, and it could not be cut short and made simple. For these reasons, when we take from our already weak economy funds for defense, the impact it has on our progress is clear. The building of our defense force is not our wish, but is being done because of a realization of the interests and collaboration of the enemies of our revolutionary mother country, because of its strategic position.

It is no secret that the struggle to protect the unity and independence of our country is taking a limited part of our economic resources in addition to the sacrifice in blood and lives, because of pressure from our enemies. This struggle of high sacrifice, which cannot be ignored, is a struggle in defense of the unity of our mother country, which is irreplaceable, and for the well-being of our revolution. For these reasons there is no alternative short of strengthening the struggle for victory unless our enemies refrain from their action.

Workers of my country, it is while we were in this situation that we were faced with a natural disaster which brought almost 7.5 million people to the brink of death and made us into receivers of alms. As is known, our party's Central Committee Politburo, right from the time it started its work, carefully and deeply studied this dangerous situation and gave directives for bringing about immediate solutions by giving it priority over other urgent issues in view of the seriousness of the situation, but without the directives conflicting with the normal and all-purpose plan for our social development. The party's members are now closely supervising their implementation. From the time it started its work, it has given priority to the problems of nature we face.

I now briefly state the understandings it has reached on the situation and the programs it has formulated.

The Politburo believes that, in addition to efforts in providing life-saving daily relief aid, it is necessary to take measures that will help permanently solve the problems, without any hesitation and in a stronger way after realizing that:

— The current drought not only affects our country but many parts of the world and Africa, in particular, where it has been spreading continuously;

— The drought in our country has not been restricted to the northern regions of our country — Eritrea, Welo, and Tigray — which has been continuously hit by the drought, but that it is also spreading to other parts of our country that have never been hit by drought;

— Though the degree of its severity might differ, at present the number of our people severely hit by the drought has reached 7.5 million;

— When compared to the number of people formerly being provided with government assistance in the past 10 years, this number has increased drastically;

— The problem is acute in the northern part of our country, where the problem has been going on for centuries and where the forests have completely been wiped out, the soil eroded, the land mountainous, and where the population is dense, and;

— It is difficult, within a short time and with limited resources, to improve the situation as in other areas and make the land support life.

Based on this, the Political Bureau has formulated programs to be carried out which have been divided into various chapters under immediate and urgent measures to be taken.

Part 1, immediate: Supplying all-purpose daily relief aid; rehabilitation in those areas as conditions permit and are possible; and preparing and transporting people from areas repeatedly hit by drought who are willing to resettle in other fertile parts of the country.

Part 2, also immediate: Completing preconditions for the success of the resettlement program, in areas selected for resettlement; accepting and resettling settlers; giving daily aid to settlers until they become self-reliant; raising [political] consciousness; organizing; providing services such as farming, basic development, health, administration, and the like; following up their productivity and social progress; and giving directives to help them work through planning.

Part 3, urgent: In order to contain the food shortage caused by the drought and save animals, the production of additional produce through the planting of (?farm) and backyard gardens throughout the country in urban and rural areas and taking the necessary measures for soil conservation, water use, and (?buying of grain) and distribution.

In accordance with this immediate action, among our compatriots who are given daily assistance, there are those who are brought daily food aid to wherever they are and those who travel

some distance and collect aid, while the rest are those who are assembled in the shelter camps and need intense assistance and special care.

I do not think it is difficult to imagine how much financial resources, manpower, and sacrifice are needed to build shelters and take care of the millions of our compatriots who need daily relief aid and intensive help, to transport food, nutritious foods, medicine, clothing, and various goods from the country's ports and airports and various storage places which are thousands of kilometers away from the recipients and even provide [word indistinct] water and fuel for cooking, take care of and save children who cannot help themselves and old people who are suffering from famine and diseases.

The second area of focus is resettlement, and this has been divided into two chapters. In the first chapter, during this year, the plan to resettle 50,000 peasant families, or 250,000 people, in the western and southwestern regions of our country and (?integrate) them among the scattered organized peasants associations has, through the prestigious cooperation and efforts of the people of the region, been implemented between 17 November 1984 and 19 December 1984.

The second chapter is the program to resettle within this year 250,000 peasant families, or 1.25 million people, on the fertile and virgin lands in the northwestern, western, and southwestern regions of our country.

The number of these 250,000 peasant families, or 1.5 million people, who are to be resettled in the two chapters is very small compared to the number of peasants who must still be resettled.

Hence, I think it is clear to everyone what enormous and complicated work and responsibilities this leadership, this generation, and this country have been burdened with. I will leave it to the people to estimate the expense for themselves, instead of saying this is the expense needed to only feed and transport by air and land the missions of our resettling compatriots within this year from one corner of our country to another; to carry out surveying work necessary in the virgin forest lands where the millions of our compatriots are to resettle — a land which until now has no communication network and where no basic development has been achieved — so as to resettle them in a planned manner or build modern peasant villages; to build roads within a short time by deploying modern and expensive equipment and using experts; to clear hundreds of thousands of hectares of land for farming; to prepare drinking water for humans and animals and to also prepare water for irrigation; to build shelter camps, clinics, health centers, hospitals, schools, and shops for storing and distributing consumer goods; to establish basic developments such as granaries and garages for repairing agricultural machinery; to provide millions of people with food, household goods, and hand tools; to provide selected seeds, animal breeding stock, oxen for farming, fertilizers, insecticides, modern agricultural machinery, and, in general, agricultural services based on agricultural research. The cost this year, of the immediate, urgent campaign to save lives is very near to the budget set aside by the country for its general development.

When we planned the 10-year perspective plan, which is divided into three chapters of implementation, even though (?we took into consideration) some man-made and natural problems which could create obstacles, our plan for the first year of our plan did not reckon on being faced with the current situation and having to make all-out provision to help 7.5 million of our compatriots, but to make the majority of the peasants self-sufficient, produce a surplus, and fulfill the food requirements of the working people living within the towns, and to provide the people with the goods from our existing and newly built factories which would get raw materials from our agricultural economy and work at their full capacity and even import in large quantities various new technologies and production machinery.

Because this year's regular development plan has not gone as planned, unless we make vast efforts to compensate for this, we may in the future be faced with a very difficult situation. As our economy's cornerstone is agriculture, and the peasant is the one who motivates this agricultural economic sector, if large numbers of peasants are faced with problems, the workers in other occupations will be exposed to hunger. Hence, unless we face up to the problem with determination and solve it, it is clear how bad the dangerous situation will become.

On the other hand, since our industries, which are based on the output of the agricultural sector, can totally stop operation and also since our agricultural produce being exported to obtain limited foreign exchange can decrease, there is no question of the decisiveness of our ability to overcome these problems threatening the survival of our national economy.

For instance, in the past few years, our cotton farms, which used to fulfill the requirements of our factories and even allow an export of their surplus, now cannot even fulfil the cotton requirements of our own factories, and hence our textile factories are only operating at partial capacity. As I mentioned earlier, we have even become importers of cotton and other foods [as heard].

This is leading to a situation where the proletariat employed in these factories which have been hampered by lack of raw materials will be paid wages without working. As a result, the scale of prices for goods and equipment which we are importing, or the import trade, and the value and amount of our agricultural exports, or export trade, has become very imbalanced, and has made the situation very critical.

The other thing that must be known to the people is that the struggle we are making to save the lives of millions is not under peaceful conditions like other countries, but it is under a situation in which we are in a fierce battle with internal traitors who threaten our revolution and our existence, reactionary forces in the area, and imperialism.

The problem in our country's northern region, which is deep-rooted, has become worse and the suffering of the people prolonged because they were hindering all efforts made by the government and the people to solve the problem before it reached this stage. They rob people of the aid given them during this difficult situation. In areas where nature allows work, they are frustrating the effort of the people to develop the area using their skills and expose the people to destruction.

Today when men and animals are dying in the thousands, they slaughter their farming oxen and drive people at gunpoint to Sudan.

In any true peoples revolution, the struggle against the antipeople is a historic responsibility and a part of the class struggle. It can be seen clearly that the antipeople secessionists in northern Ethiopia have completely abandoned humanitarian feelings. The Ethiopian working people must understand that our struggle is not only against backwardness, which we inherited from the reactionary system and natural problems, but it is also against foreign agents who, in addition to threatening our revolution and unity of our country, are also challenging our very existence. When we say that our struggle is against secessionists who are threatening our beloved mother country, it must be clear to all of us that it is the struggle against the reactionary regimes in the area and the antiworld peace imperialism, which fully supports and arms them.

Dear compatriots, even though in view of the strength and victories we have been given by our great revolution, which has astounded the world, and our bright hope for the future, we are certain that we will victorously overcome the problems caused by nature, our party does not hide from the working people that, without exaggeration, the problem is difficult and complex. True, the aid given to us by our friends who have been by our side in all our problems from the beginning of our revolution and the peoples and governments of various countries who show humanitarian goodwill to us with our problems is encouraging, and we give our heartfelt gratitude, but nevertheless I must make it very clear that this will not replace our own efforts to solve the problem for good. This is so because by distributing this aid to areas where our compatriots affected oy the problem are, we can for the time being save a limited number of lives. But as observed through past experience in some northern regions of our country, this is not the first time the problem has existed, and it cannot be solved within a short time. Hence, it is not possible to find a lasting solution through temporary aid only.

Even though foreign aid from all countries may continue for a long time, we cannot be completely sure that it will arrive in the required quantities. To just sit and expect this to happen will without a doubt be sentencing ourselves and inviting further collapse. When I say sentencing ourselves, it does not only mean passing sentence on the lives of our compatriots who are at present the victims of the drought and need life-saving aid, but that it is important to critically observe the distruption that this will cause to the remaining economic sectors and to the working people. In addition, this will create a suitable situation for our enemies, who look for our weak side, wait for various opportunities, and try (?to test) our revolution and our unity.

Workers of my country, this party and government stand for the people and truth. Hence we should look deeply, without any (?evasion), for the true cause of our problems. Even though it is unquestionable that the aggression of our country's historical and class enemies and the problems of nature have put heavy pressure on our progress, still it is not correct to assume that these problems are the sole decisive causes for retarding our progress and messing up our life. Even though we say that we have registered many victories by embarking on a new and correct people's development path, the problems we make regarding the country's growth, opposing tendencies, which are against our continuous growth, and (?statistical) goals — they cannot be seen easily and passed off lightly. Our efforts to overcome the situation of hand-to-mouth economic backwardness that we inherited have now even reached a stage where we are being given alms of daily food or are even hastening our development. All our weaknesses are touched; we should hold modest discussions on the truth.

While saying that the peasant, on whom our existence depends and who is the cornerstone of our progress, is farming with backward tools which are thousands of years old, some of us have become the owners and users of automobiles, which are being bought with the very little foreign exchange that was earned through the sweat of this suffering worker and peasant. While factories, power stations, construction, and agricultural machinery have been hampered in their production work because of a lack of spare parts and even here and there have stopped production, the importation of automobile spare parts is continuing. Anyone fills up his car as he wishes, to the benefit of producer countries, with the fuel that we import by paying 60 percent of our foreign exchange — the foreign exchange which is critical for our social economy, but which is also limited, and which we even sometimes beg for. While we have a great shortage of food and medicines, luxury goods are being imported with foreign currency.

While the majority of the working people go without adequate clothing, some of us fulfill our desire by adorning ourselves with imported clothes, shoes, and glittering jewelry which has been imported with nonexistent foreign exchange. While many workers have shelter problems, some of us are running around building houses, which are beyond the capacity of our country, by scrambling for building materials, even from development projects. While the appalling starvation of many of our citizens is echoing throughout the world, some of us are making merry. In general, while our country is at the bottom of those backward countries, the lives of some of us are not very different from the living standards seen in the economically developed countries. But more than anything, many of us have not even developed the discipline or culture to respect working hours.

Workers of my country, in order to change the face of our pitiful country, which is famous for its history and is blessed with natural resources but which has been hindered from development, we need to change ourselves first.

All of us who want to see our revolutionary motherland emerge from the problems caused by nature, to see it make progress in development, build up its ability in all sectors, and move on to a greater level should take the following urgent actions:

1. In order to implement the program formulated to save the lives of our compatriots who are on the brink of death and rehabilitate them, all of us who are engaged in this field of work — except those compatriots who are recipients of aid — and every citizen here and abroad should make a financial contribution according to our incomes, leaving aside all our various problems, as our problems cannot in any way be compared with that of those who are on the brink of death.

2. All citizens in all fields of work should campaign to provide camps for our compatriots who need daily relief aid and various kinds of assistance, and help those in resettlement centers who are trying to build a new life, with our various professional experiences and physical work.

3. As the very little foreign exchange which we earn from one economic sector, namely the agricultural economic sector, should only by used systematically and economically for the urgent life-saving program and the very decisive social development work. The importation of all cars, for private and for government use, and similar [word indistinct] vehicles, and unnecessary luxury items will be stopped.

4. Concerning transporation, government vehicles will no longer be used privately, but will be used for joint services and only for very important government work.

5. Concerning the mode of clothing: The importation of textiles which vary very much in their quality and colors will be stopped. Until we manufacture our own clothes, we should share and wear our own national products which are made by our industries, cottage industries, and by our own talents.

6. The fuel and oil imported through foreign exchange that is earned through the sweat of the working people, and through aid, will not be used by people as they wish, but will be used systematically and economically for development work, social services, and public transport.

7. Even though working people have been freed from the great exploitation they suffered from in terms of urban land and extra houses [to be rented], some inidividuals are, through various methods, selling urban land and houses they built through loans from the government and other sources. Consequently, exploitation and individual superiority have increased. The rush for materials which are necessary for nation-building has put a strain on our social development. Therefore, this tendency will be stopped and in general the construction of houses will be made to follow the people's system.

A directive will be issued for the implementation of the measures I dealt with above and those I dealt with earlier on activities to contain the natural problem.

Regarding the (?formation) of a just and prosperous world (?for all), for which we struggle, the steps we take to correct things, beginning with our life-style, is not one to be taken in the context of solving this or that problem only, but, as it is a historic call to hasten our development march, its implementation is also very decisive.

As our revolution has been able to overcome problems facing it and has marched forward through the continued participation of the working people, today all true citizens of this country must be vigilant against all our enemies, [words indistinct] must push forward for increased work participation.

Dear workers, it is known that during the last 10 years we have done a lot of work which gives pride not only to us but to this country's future generation, through the great national and revolutionary spirit of struggle, the work we did during the development campaign to (?match) the historic land to the tiller decree, in particular, the victories we won against the various reactionary gangs which tried to nip our revolution in the bud and [word indistinct] our beloved motherland through the heroic red display by the children of the working peoples with outstanding speed and numbers under the banner "motherland or death," and our great achievements in the development and literacy campaign are permanent and unforgettable testimonies to our popular struggle. Today the call to overcome the ugly problems caused by nature is another opportunity for our strength and for the activities of all workers deployed in every field of work to be tested in terms of contributions towards promoting or retarding our struggle to eliminate hunger. Accordingly, all of us must ensure that we overcome every obstacle and make use of every moment fruitfully.

It is obvious that everyone desires equality and prosperity. This desire can only be realized through a struggle that is based on the correct understanding of the actual situation. It is obvious that, if it were possible to fulfill one's desire by marching along an easy path, we would have all chosen such a path. But there is no historic occasion in which a people's ambition has been realized without sacrifices. The situations which we were faced with and still face are no different from this. Our struggle to overcome the problems currently facing us should be seen in this way. We cannot have a peaceful conscience until we completely eradicate the situation in which the thousands of children who are the future leaders of Ethiopia die in their mothers embrace due to lack of something to eat, [words indistinct] the elderly die where they lie due to lack of food.

Therefore the work of helping, to the best of our ability, and sharing the problems of the country and compatriots by all of us citizens who are better off, should not be considered a very big sacrifice. What kind of (?patience) can we have, not to give an immediate response when we are faced with a situation which tests not only our national responsibility but also our humanitarian duty? Because we have a country blessed with natural wealth and a struggling people, there is no doubt that, if we strengthen our arms and increase two-fold our activities in all fields of work and areas of struggle, we will overcome all our problems. Hence, all of us who say we love our country and our compatriots stand for justice and common prosperity, and all of us who wish to see our hopes become a reality should march forward to carry out our responsibilities based on the program formulated by our party and the directives it issues. Let us march forward to help our drought-affected compatriots. Let all stand guard for the revolutionary motherland. Through our struggle we will establish a people's democratic Ethiopia where all live for one and one lives for all.

Thank you.

Addresses Addis Ababa Rally

EA1112052 Addis Ababa Domestic Service in Amharic 0710 GMT 10 Feb 85

[Speech by Mengistu Haile Mariam, secretary general of the Workers Party of Ethiopia, PMAC chairman, and commander in chief of the Ethiopian Armed Forces, from Addis Ababa's Revolution Square to rally in support of Mengistu's 9 February address to the nation — live]

[Text] My beloved compatriots, from the time we raised our united muscle 10 years ago to get rid of the feudal yoke of oppression which was part of our life and the reason for our backwardness, from the time we stood up in unity to realize our desire for justice, equality, and true independence, and from the beginning of our revolution, our faith was in the broad masses to reach our goal. On the basis of this and making all necessary sacrifice, we were able to push forward by moving from one victory to another, shaming our external and internal enemies, who wished and predicted our failure.

If we look back through the magnifying glass of memory and examine the path of struggle we have been moving along, all of us can remember what kind of problems we have encountered and overcome. From royalty and aristocrats, who were boasting as if they were supernatural beings, to the aggressive feudals, from the agents of imperialism to the adventurer petite bourgeois, and farther afield, from reactionary regimes in the area to international imperialism and numerous antirevolutionary and anti-Ethiopian forces, there is none who did not launch an attack against us directly or indirectly according to their ability. There is nothing they have not tried individually or jointly by using one method or another to cause setbacks to our people's revolution. But, despite the extent of their conspiracy and collaboration, we remained invincible. This was not by chance or due to an unknown secret, but was proof that there is no force that can stop the genuine people's aim based on the people's practical participation. In line with this, and since our confidence is in the people, yesterday or today, and now or in the future, we have not the slightest doubt that our revolutionary objectives will be realized.

Beloved workers of my country, the obligation of the present generation is to eliminate the inheritance of backwardness which has been attached to our mother country for many centuries and given her an embarrassing reputation in the eyes of other countries. To eliminate backwardness means to achieve or speed up progress, and the responsibility is very heavy. Even though many have prophesied and believed that Ethiopia's existence after crown-rule would be questionable and believed the existence of backwardness as a virtue, we have made her a country in which not only do we live in revolutionary struggle, but also a country in which her proletarian children light up the torch of victory. For this reason her friends look at her for moral support and her enemies with fear.

Our enemies have been attacking us relentlessly because they are worried about the example our revolution has set for those who are living in this part of the world, and because they realize that it will expose their exploitation and oppression against the people. We have been creating favorable conditions for rapid progress and eliminating the backwardness which we have been living in shame, without deviating from our people's objectives. On the basis of our victories, which are known to all, we formulated a program and a 10-year perspective plan during the founding of our party in order to make our Ethiopia a fortress of peace and economic prosperity by eliminating national problems.

In line with this, we were inspired by hopes of high development and revolutionary spirit. But the drought which spread in many African countries and which was not too far out of control in our country, inflicted damage to an extent that we never expected. The extent of damage which this natural disaster inflicted on us and threatens us with is well known to the whole world. Even though the damage inflicted on us by nature is deplorable, the actions we have taken to control this dangerous situation and the result achieved by our extensive and enormous activity, by itself, is testimony to the people of the world of what a conscious and organized people can do.

Even though the natural problem we encountered has inflicted great damage on not hundreds or thousands but millions of our nationals and disrupted our national development efforts, the result we have achieved up until now and our ongoing effort to eliminate the problem once and for all has made us proud of our people, even more so today. The great effort we are making in an organized and coordinated way is something of which all forces that stand for humanity, peace, and social progress can be proud.

This situation was not expected by our enemies and it has angered them. Our revolution was unyielding when they threatened it in the past, and they thought that today it was possible for them to fulfill their wish by using the situation created by the natural problem.

However, the situation did not develop in the way they wanted, and reactionary forces and imperialism have started supporting and encouraging their agents in every way. In addition to combatting the difficult natural disaster which has even moved the people of the world from one end to the other, it has become necessary for us to make additional sacrifice to protect the unity of our beloved country.

Beloved workers, it is clear to everybody that now is a time when we must give priority to saving the lives of our compatriots whose situation is getting worse because of the drought. In addition, what all Ethiopian workers who genuinely stand for the success of our glorious revolutionary objectives must realize, is that our struggle is not limited to saving the lives of our affected compatriots. This will not make our effort complete. Our objective is to help our compatriots come out of this problem and resettle them in order to have their rights respected and enable them to benefit from what they produce.

Our archenemies and some groups with whom we do not have the same interest are bitterly criticizing our continued effort to resettle compatriots affected by drought in fertile parts of our country. The reason is clear to us. We know for certin that those who wish to exploit us will not be made happy by our becoming self-sufficient and eliminating the problem. What they want and what would make them happy is for us to remain destitute and

beg them forever, and, if possible, to make us carry their yoke of oppression again. However, this is not only impossible but unthinkable in revolutionary Ethiopia.

We would not have had to make all these sacrifices if we wanted to let ourselves slip back to disgrace, or give up our freedom to oppressors. Therefore, we use this opportunity to yet again make known to and warn our archenemies and their agents that we will never flinch from eliminating temporary problems and oppression, and we will make any sacrifice to demonstrate this. Even though some groups, who even attempt to abandon their national honor, think that dependence will solve their problems, history has proved the impossibility of this. There is no better instrument for the proletarian than struggle and self-reliance. We will pursue our policy of advancing mutual interest that is free of oppression with countries which have a desire for peace and good-neighborliness. There is no alternative to increasing our own effort.

In order to build and develop we have to change the conditions in our society that are contary to our objectives. The situation in which some of our compatriots are suffering from hunger because of lack of food, while others live in luxury, must be corrected by all means. In class struggle there can be no liberalism or regard for others. The working class and the proletarian as a whole must not be off their guard at any time. The reactionaries know very well that the Ethiopian people are at the stage of forming the people's Republic of Ethiopia, which will enable them to have complete self-rule, and there is nothing they will not do to disrupt this. They will present themselves as sympathizers if possible, and, if not, they will even use force. Therefore, we must be vigilant and protect our objectives.

Today we have to struggle vigorously for a brighter future. As long as we are ready for this and the proletariat struggle vigilantly and vigorously for the genuine objective they stand for, and for their right and interest, we will lead our mother country, which has become poor due to nonutilization of natural resources, to a stage of shining honor, under the firm leadership of our party. We will be at the forefront of the struggle, and I promise this again on behalf of all its true revolutionary children. Let us move forward with strength to contain natural disaster. We will form the people's democratic Ethiopia by our struggle, and there is no force that can stop us attaining our peoples objectives and goals; even today we will win. Thank you.

Decree on Citizens' 'Special' Contributions

EA122044 Addis Ababa Domestic Service in Amharic 1714 GMT 11 Feb 85

[Text] Decree No 272/1977 [Ethiopian calendar, 1984-85], issued on the collection of special contributions to be used for assisting and rehabilitating those affected by drought. "Ethiopia tikdem." [PMAC slogan: "Ethiopia first"]

The serious drought that has affected major parts of our country has lead to the loss of many lives and has disrupted the lives of many others. The Workers Party of Ethiopia [WPE] and the PMAC have taken measures to resolve the problems of compatriots who have been affected by drought, and have widely publicized the damage caused by the drought. In response to this call the international community and citizens of the country are currently coordinating aid to combat this destruction and the problems caused by nature.

Since it is believed that the material and monetary contribution of the broad Ethiopian masses will help to achieve better and more effective results and will be more balanced when coordinated through a central [authority] according to Decree No (?110)/1966 [1974-75] issued to redefine the powers and responsibilities of the PMAC and the Council of Ministers, the following has been decreed:

Part I. General:

1. Short Title: This decree can be cited as the Assistance and Rehabilitation Special Contribution Decree No 272/1977.

2. Meaning: In this decree:

a. Ethiopian means: Any Ethiopian citizen, or an organization which is a fully private body set up abroad and which has an affilitated office or branch in Ethiopia which has been set up according to the laws of Ethiopia and has been accorded human rights [as heard] by law;

b. Human being means: A natural man or a body which has been accorded legal human rights.

3. On the payment of special contribution: In accordance with the stipulations of this article of this decree, every Ethiopian will have an obligation to pay a special contribution to assist and rehabilitate those hit by drought.

Part II. Contribution to be paid by salaried workers and pensioners:

4. Amount and mode of payment by salaried workers:

a. The amount to be paid by every Ethiopian will be one month's salary;

(1) If the amount is paid according to the Ethiopian calendar, it will start from Yekatit 1977 [February 1985];

(2) If the amount is paid according to the Gregorian calendar, it will start as of February 1985 and be paid in 12 equal payments over a year;

b. People who are employed after Yekatit 1977 or, as in the Gregorian calendar, after February 1985, will start payments of their contributions as of the month that their employment commences.

5. Employers' responsibilities: Any employer who has the responsibility of deducting any benefits from the employee, assumes, in accordance with this decree, the responsibility for deducting this special contribution with other income tax deductions and for paying it to the tax collecting office.

6. The responsibility of governmental organizations: If the employer is a governmental organization, this special contribution will be deducted from the monthly payroll.

7. Individual responsibility: Ethiopians employed in institutions to which the income tax decree is not applicable should deposit the special contribution in the bank and hand over the receipt to their respective urban dwellers association.

8. Amount and mode of payment by pensioners:

a. Every pensioner whose pension allowance is 50 birr or more will pay a special contribution. The amount of the special contribution will be one month's pension allowance and this will be paid over a year in 12 equal payments;

b. As for the monies to be paid in this article, Subarticle a, the body that will pay the pension allowance will deduct and deposit it to the account indicated in Article 31 of this decree.

Part III. Contribution to be paid by farmers:

9. Special contribution to be paid by farmers:

a. Every farmer will pay a special contribution of one-twelfth of his annual income. However, the special contribution collected from every farmer should not be less than 40 birr;

b. The special contribution defined in Subarticle a of this article will be made in two equal payments. The first payment will be made before 8 May 1985 and the second payment will be made before 7 May 1986 to the local peasants association in the vicinity of the contributor's residence.

10. Responsibilities of the neighborhood peasants associations: According to Decree No 77/1968, every local peasants association will:

a. When collecting agricultural income tax for 1977, also collect the first half of the special contribution;

b. When collecting agricultural income tax for 1978 [1986], collect the second half of the special contribution and deposit it in the nearest branch office of the Treasury Ministry.

Part IV. Contributions to be paid from the trade sector:

11. Contributions of share companies: Every share company or private limited company will pay 1 percent of the annual sales or annual service income of the 1976 budget year, as stipulated by the Internal Revenue Office, as a special contribution.

12. Contributions that will be paid by other trade sectors and individual traders: Trade organizataion, bodies, or traders who are not included in Article 11 above and who are engaged in any trade activity, profession, or any income-generating service will pay, as a special contribution, 2 percent of their sales or service income of 1976 as stipulated by the Internal Revenue Office.

13. Time of payment: Special contributions indicated in Articles 11 and 12 will be paid in two equal payments; the first payment should be before 8 May 1985 and the second before 10 November 1985.

14. Special contributions to be paid by members of producers' cooperative unions:

a. Any person who is a member of a producers' cooperative union outside the agricultural sector will pay one month's income as a special contribution. This will be paid in 12 equal monthly payments;

b. The monies indicated in Subarticle a of this article will be collected by the cooperative union and will be deposited with the body indicated in Article 29 of this decree.

Part V. Contribution to be paid from other sources of income, apart from those defined in Parts II-IV:

15. Income earned from lottery:

a. Every person who receives income from lottery or similar sources will pay a special contribution of 5 percent on every 1,000 birr or more. If the prize is given in kind it will be valued in terms of cash;

b. The person who gives the prize to winners of the lottery prize will deduct the special contribution and deposit the sum in accordance with Article 29 of this decree.

16. Incomes acquired from dividend payments made by share companies:

a. Every Ethiopian who earns income from dividend payments made by share companies will pay a special contribution of 1 percent;

b. According to Article 29 of this decree, the person who pays share dividends to shareholders will deduct the special contribution and deposit the sum in accordance with Article 29 of this decree.

Part VI. Decree on implementing committees:

17. Formation of implementing committees: Committees that will see to the proper implementation of this decree have been formed, in accordance with this decree, at national, regional, Addis Ababa, provincial, and district levels.

18. Members of national committees: The national committee will have the following members: labor and social affairs minister, chairman; finance minister, member; interior minister, member; agriculture minister, member; commissioner of the Relief and Rehabilitation Commission, member; chairman of the National Workers Control Committee, member; chairman of the All-Ethiopian Trade union, member; chairman of the Ethiopian Peasants Association, member; administrator of the concerned region, member; head of the decree Implementation Office, secretary.

19. Powers and duties of the national committee: The national committee will have the following duties and powers:

a. To agitate for the proper implementation of the decree;

b. To set up the necessary directive for the implementation of the decree and to follow up their implementation;

c. To prepare receipts for the collection of the special contribution decreed hereby;

d. To prepare working orders for the committees formed by this decree and implement them;

e. To decide areas where the special contribution indicated in Article 9 of this decree is fully or partially inapplicable;

f. In general, to supervise and follow up the proper implementation of the decree.

20. Offices: The national committee will have its own office. A head will be assigned to the office.

21. Regional committee: The regional committee will have the following members: regional administrator, chairman; head of the regional Finance Ministry's branch office, member; head of the regional Agriculture Ministry's branch office, member; head of the Labor and Social Affairs Ministry's branch office, member; head of the regional Relief and Rehabilitation Commission's branch office, member; chairman of the regional control committee, member; chairman of the regional trade union, member; chairman of the regional peasants association, member.

22. Powers and duties of the regional committee: The regional committee will have the following powers and duties:

a. To agitate in the region for the proper implementation of the decree;

b. To implement the directives given by the national committee;

c. To assist those bodies which are deployed in the collection of special contributions in the region;

d. To submit regional quarterly reports to the national committee on the implementation of the decree.

23. Provincial committees: The provincial committee will have the following members: administrator of the province, chairman; head of the provincial Ministry of Finance branch office, member; head of the provincial Agriculture Ministry's branch office, member; head of the Labor and Social Affairs Ministry's branch office, member; chairman of the provincial peasants association, member.

24. Powers and duties of the provincial committee: The provincial committee will have the following powers and duties:

a. To agitate for the proper implementation of the decree in the province;

b. To implement the directives given by the regional committee;

c. To assist those provincial bodies deployed in the collection of special contributions;

d. To submit bimonthly reports to the regional committee on the implementation of the decree in the province.

25. District committees: The district committee will have the following members: district administrator, chairman; head of the district Finance Ministry branch office, member; head of the district Agriculture Ministry's branch office, member; chairman of the district peasants association, member.

26. Powers and duties of the district committee: The district committee will have the following powers and duties:

a. To agitate for the proper implementation of the decree in the province;

b. To implement the directives given by the provincial committee;

c. To assist those district bodies deployed in the collection of special contributions;

d. To submit monthly reports on the development of the implementation of the decree to the provincial committee.

27. The Addis Ababa city committee: The Addis Ababa city committee will have the following members: mayor of Addis Ababa, chairman; Ministry of Finance representative, member; Ministry of Labor and Social Affairs representative; member; chairman of the Addis Ababa city workers Control Committee, member; chairman of the Addis Ababa Area Trade Union, member; chairman of the Addis Ababa Chamber of Commerce, member.

28. Powers and duties of the Addis Ababa committee: The Addis Ababa committee will have the following powers and duties:

a. To agitate for the proper implementation of the decree around the city limits;

b. To implement the directives given by the national committee;

c. To assist those city bodies deployed in the collection of special contributions;

d. To submit a quarterly report on the implementation of the decree to the national committee.

Part VII. Various regulations:

29. Place of payment: The special contribution to be paid by persons stipulated in Parts IV and V of this decree will:

a. Be paid to branches of the commercial bank of Ethiopia named by the National Bank of Ethiopia, if the person's trade is in Addis Ababa;

b. Be paid to the tax collecting office where the person regularly pays income tax, if the person's trade is outside Addis Ababa.

30. On receipts:

a. Receipts prepared according to the directives issued by the national committee will be issued for the special contributions collected;

b. Every neighborhood peasants associations or producers cooperative society will issue a receipt to the payee for the special contribution collected as stipulated in Subarticle a of this article;

c. When an employee completes full payment of the special contribution required of him or his work contract is terminated, the employer who has the responsibility for deducting special contributions from employees and depositing them will give him proof of the total amount he has contributed. [passage indistinct]

33. Obligation to cooperate: All governmental organizations, public associations, cooperative work associations, and private organizations and individuals have an obligation to cooperate with the decree implementation committees and with bodies collecting the special contribution in implementing this decree.

34. On new contribution payees:

a. Every person who earns income by providing professional agricultural services or through trade will pay his special contribution from this income once this decree is implemented;

b. The national decree implementation committee will issue the necessary directives regarding the date for the payment of the special contribution stipulated in Subarticle a of this article.

35. Statutes declared null and void: The provisional additional surtax on income to assist and rehabilitate areas of drought, Decree No 24/1967, and the provisional additional surtax on income to assist and rehabilitate areas of drought, Regulation No 4/1967, have been annulled by this decree.

36. Implementation of the decree: The statutes of the penal code relevant to the implementation of the laws of taxation will be applicable in the implementation of this decree.

37. The date on which the decree will come into force: This decree will come into force from the day it is printed and published in the *NEGARIT GAZETA*.

[signed] PMAC, Addis Ababa, 11 February 1985

PMAC on Contributions

EA122331 Addis Ababa Domestic Service in Amharic 1714 GMT 11 Feb 85

[Text] Listeners, we now present a Provisional Military Administrative Council statement titled: There is no better solution than common effort, and the aid and rehabilitation decree issued to rehabilitate our drought-hit compatriots:

There is no better solution for national problems than common effort — here is a statement from the PMAC:

During the course of their long history, the broad masses of Ethiopia have faced many man-made and natural problems. The national problems the broad masses faced throughout those years are connected with the natural problem we face today, a problem that threatens our survival and blemishes our national dignity.

Throughout the ancient and recent history of our society, droughts occasioned by lack or complete absence of rain have destroyed the peasant's crops cultivated with backward farming methods and his livestock and laid him open to starvation and plague. Locusts and pests afflicting the country during some years destroyed the farmer's standing crops and left him empty handed. In the ensuing situation, such peasants as survived wandered from one part of the country to another seeking succor, often dying before reaching their destinations. Then, unlike now, it was not possible to erect tents for those needing shelter, to provide aid wherever the needy were, or when necessary transport them from one part of the country to another by means of coordinated efforts and speedy transport. The people had no alternative to facing the problem whenever it occurred and bearing their sufferings alone, silently and without anyone coming to their aid.

The Ethiopian broad masses have lived the greater part of their lives stifled and in ignorance, under a very backward feudal system, and their ability to understand the causes and ways of resolving their problems have been limited. Thus, unable to understand or control their environment even to a limited degree, they accepted all their problems as Godsent and spent their lives pleading for mercy. But even during that era of darkness they did not shrink from defeating and humilitating the plotters who rose up against them from time to time.

In spite of having to languish in poverty on the land of their country, they continued to respect their national identity by virtue of the strength they derived from their cooperation and unity. It is unnecessary to delve too far back into history to prove the extent to which they stood up and died for their rights. It suffices to mention the great sacrifices they have made during the past decade of struggle and victory to protect their motherland and revolution, from the front to the rearguard, and to build a new popular system.

Today, the extremely disastrous drought, which is totally unprecedented in this country's history, has created a situation that challenges the unity and strength of the broad masses. It has brought starvation to 150 million people in various African countries. Its destructive effects on our country in particular are unprecedented. Inasmuch as the drought in our revolutionary Ethiopia is worse than in any other country, and has come at a time when the country had just emerged from the period during which its development had been throttled for centuries and had yet to build up sufficient strength to contain such a gargantuan natural (?calamity), the country was exposed to an extremely horrifying disaster.

As has been stated repeatedly, the problems caused by natural disasters, whose destructive effects on our compatriots have never

before been contained as they are now with international support being added to our own efforts, are very wide-ranging and complex. They have not only cut short the lives of many of our compatriots, but severely disrupted the lives of millions of others. Albeit that our compatriots directly hit by the problem are the principal victims, the wounds our morale has sustained at a national level, at the hands of our economic crisis, will not heal easily. Let all those who look and observe this ask: How long will this pathetic situation continue? Questions such as: When will our compatriots, forced to depend on charity, become self-sufficient? will frequently crop up. Truly, the extent and dangerous portents of the problem trouble and challenge the conscience.

Because the scope of the problem and the dangers posed by it are very great, high priority is being applied to the current activities, ranging from day-to-day aid to rehabilitation. This day and night effort backed by our friends and foreign donors has served to steadily diminish the imminent disaster.

Food shortages due to natural problems, particularly due to lack or total absence of rain, can affect every society. It is unlikely, however, that such a situation must culminate in a severe famine and a general crisis in life affecting one and all. A disaster either becomes effective or it is contained, depending on society's stage of development.

As is known, the economy of our country is based on agriculture, but the agricultural sector is not supported by a scientific and technical infrastructure; in the most backward (?areas) it is subject to natural conditions. Our great popular revolution freed the farmer from being a tithe-payer and consolidated his rights as a land owner. As a recipient of the fruits of his labor he is coordinating his efforts through associations from a transitional stage to a level that will give him access to greater communal benefits. He has not yet, however, reached the stage where he is in proper control of nature and can produce a surplus. He therefore remains unprepared to contain the problems and famine arising from natural imbalances.

The severity of the natural problem is due to the fact that it has struck us when we are at a low stage of development, as has repeatedly been the case during our country's history. It also confronts many other countries, which, like ourselves, have been unable to eradicate it. The history of the world has witnessed major and horrifying famines in various countries. But we know that most of the famines which have plagued millions in various countries struck at times of low social development, when the socioeconomic system was backward and before an industrial, scientific, and technological revolution had taken place. During the past century up to the middle of the 20th century, many Asian countries lost nearly 200 million people from this cause. During the period of history known as the Middle Ages, recurring famines killed many millions in Europe. In the 11th and 12th centuries alone, there were 20 great famines in Europe. Historians have recorded that during those periods people fled seeking succor from starvation and that many perished on the roads.

It can be generally concluded from these instances that no society at a low stage of development can escape the ravages of natural problems. Natural problems, such as droughts, floods, and blizzards continue to occur in developed countries today, but although they cannot escape the problems, the damage incurred is not significant by virtue of their capacity to contain them. On the other hand, the damage incurred by African, Asian, and Latin American countries, which are at a low stage of development, is very great. It might be said that today there are food shortages or starvation in economically developed countries, but they are brought about by dietary imbalances rather than famine: In backward countries, famine is an issue of acquiring a piece of bread and of being able or unable to sustain life for one more day.

The task of overcoming the problems of the extremely vicious disaster brought about by natural causes this year and which have been contained by virtue of the relentless efforts made in our country over the past decade, calls for major all-out efforts.

Under the action program, drafted by our party's Central Committee Political Bureau, which gives priority to the problem, all forms of effort have continued to save the lives of our affected compatriots and also to solve the problem permanently. The all-out efforts being made by our party, government, mass organizations, and by workers in all sectors in general, are a source of pride, because through these concerted efforts it has been possible to save the lives of millions of our compatriots who were on the brink of death.

However, due to the ominous characteristics of the problem, these efforts must not only continue but become even more determined. Saving the lives of compatriots is a major national and humanitarian duty which cannot be neglected in any way and no effort can be spared in carrying it out. The problem can reoccur at any time unless we find a permanent solution. We must accordingly push harder with unreserved efforts to build the reliable capacity to render ourselves invulnerable.

Work can overcome temporary social problems and backwardness. Every citizen must therefore make unreserved efforts to produce fruitful results in his employment sector and on the struggle front. We can guarantee our general development only when we do that. Inasmuch as social development depends on consistent struggle, our struggle cannot be spasmodic but must be constant. If we are prepared to make every necessary sacrifice, if we work and produce fruitful results, there is no reason why we should not cease being recipients and become benefactors.

In this spirit, it has become necessary to formulate a method to enable us to save the lives of our compatriots who are close to death and crying with hunger. This we must do through the concerted efforts of every sector of society. Every citizen and worker must make his sacrifice. A limited contribution made by every citizen from income is not an insurmountable share of obligation.

The degree to which the sum of individual contributions will help alleviate the sufferings of compatriots will be limited, but the act of giving will benefit us by giving us a clear conscience. The problem we face cannot be contained by sympathy alone. It cannot be solved just by talking about the horrific situation. Saving the lives of compatriots and rehabilitating them by sharing what we have with them and freeing the motherland from backwardness through nation-building is the current call

directed at every citizen. Inasmuch as developmentally advanced peoples have succeeded in reaching their present stage by demolishing mountains, delving into the oceans, and developing the desert by various means, it is pathetic that we who possess huge untouched natural resources cannot at least feed ourselves. Let us therefore strengthen ourselves and struggle by further coordinating our knowledge under the slogan: One for all, all for one. We shall defeat starvation by uniting our strength. We shall establish the peoples democratic republic of Ethiopia.

KENYA

Disturbances at University of Nairobi

Students Dispersed

EA101149 Nairobi Domestic Service in English 1000 GMT 10 Feb 85

[Text] University of Nairobi students were this morning forcefully dispersed after defying a lawful order to stop holding an illegal assembly. The students assembled at the university sports ground under the pretext of holding prayers. They were then addressed by the vice chancellor, Professor Joseph Mungai, and his deputy, Professor Mbithi, who pleaded with them to disperse and prepare to resume lectures tomorrow, Monday.

The students apparently became uncooperative and violent, forcing the police to use tear gas to disperse the unruly crowd. The operation lasted only 20 minutes as the panicking students fled in all directions.

Meanwhile, all the students of the University of Nairobi are expected to attend classes, and continue to do so from tomorrow Monday, 11 February 1985, without fail.

A government statement issued today say that any student who will be found to have absented himself or herself from classes without express permission from the university authorities will be regarded to have abandoned his or her sponsorship and place in the University of Nairobi.

No Presidential Directive Involved

EA111429 Nairobi KNA in English 1237 GMT 11 Feb 85

[Text] Nairobi, Feb 11 — The students call to resume classes was not a directive from the president but a step in accordance with the law, the chief secretary, Mr Simeon Nyachae, has corrected.

Reacting to a report carried today by a local daily, Mr Nyachae said the president did not issue any such directive and the police officer who read the declaration was merely complying with a legal requirement regarding the dispersion of unlawful meetings which is embodied in the Public Order Act, Cap. 56.

The following is a full text of the chief secretary's statement:

The attention of this office has been drawn to report which appeared in one of the local dailies concerning the disturbances that took place at the university over the weekend.

In that report, it is suggested that the provincial commissioner, Nairobi area, in dispersing an illegal meeting of university students was doing so on the direction of h.e. the president.

I wish to take this opportunity to place it on record that h.e. the president did not issue any such directive. The police officer who read the declaration was merely complying with a legal requirement regarding the dispersion of unlawful meeting which is embodied in the Public Order Act, Cap. 56.

The dispersion of the meeting in question was done strictly in accordance with the law and there was, therefore, no question of his excellency issuing a directive in the matter.

Most Classes Resume

EA112158 Nairobi KNA in English 1600 GMT 11 Feb 85

[Text] Nairobi Feb 11 — Lectures were back to normal in a large section of the University of Nairobi today.

According to one of the deputy vice-chancellors of the University of Nairobi, students in several colleges of the university, namely the medical school, the chiromo campus, the oikuyu campus, the kabete campus and the Kenyatta university college, resumed their studies this morning.

Only the students in the college of Humanities and Social Sciences on the main campus, the faculty of architecture and the engineering college did not resume their classes today.

The unrest at the university started last Thursday (7th February) when students boycotted lectures.

Yesterday, the government ordered all the students of the university to resume their classes this morning, failure to which any student would be deemed to have abandoned his/her place at the university.

The senior university official said after yesterday's incident at the university sports ground when students who were meeting were dispersed by police some students may have gone home and that could be the reason why classes were not full today. He said when the students who went out of the campus yesterday return, then everything will be back to normal at the university.

Government Statement

EA121618 Nairobi Domestic Service in English 1300 GMT 12 Feb 85

[Text] This following statement is a government statement issued by the chief secretary, Mr Simon Nyachae, on the situation at Nairobi University:

On Sunday, 10 February 1985, the government required the students of the University of Nairobi to be back to classes by Monday, 11 February 1985.

The majority of the students in the colleges of architecture and engineering and humanities and social sciences refused to go

back to classes. Today the majority of students in these colleges have again refused to go back to classes and some of them have even formed pickets to stop others attending classes. As a result of this unbecoming behavior by some of the students, the university authorities, in consultation with the government, have found it necessary to close the College of Architecture and Engineering and the College of Humanities and Social Sciences.

All undergraduate students from these colleges are required to vacate the halls of residence and the campus immediately and not later than 5:00 pm today. Postgraduate students are not affected.

These students will be required to apply afresh for readmission on a day to be notified later. The application for readmission will be presented to the deputy vice chancellor, academic affairs of the university, in person, and the applicants would have to be accompanied by parents or guardians who will witness the binding-over of the student to be of good conduct during his or her studies at the university.

All students affected are required to report to their respective locational chief by 14 February 1985 and obtain their letter of compliance which would have to be attached to the application for readmission.

In another statement, signed by the permanent secretary, administration, Mr Joseph Mathenge, the government has given the background to the situation at Nairobi University as follows:

Some time in November 1985 [date as heard], a few students started taking a keen interest in activities similar to those which led to the disturbances in 1982. During this time there was an effort by the university authorities to find out whether there were any problems affecting the well-being of the students to justify the strange behavior which had developed among some of them.

The few students identified to be involved in this questionable conduct were talked to and warned to refrain from continuing with the activities of confusing other students. They did not heed to the warning. It was therefore necessary to take some disciplinary action against them. After consultation between the university authorities and the government, a decision was reached to expel three students and withdraw sponsorship of five students who are free to continue with their education provided they were able to provide alternative sponsorship.

Appropriate communication was conveyed to the students concerned, and instead of complying with the decision taken, they resorted to inciting other students to lawlessness.

A number of sutdents, having joined the few who had been disciplined, decided to disregard repeated instructions from the university authorities and the government for 5 days. On the morning of 9 February, students passed, among other resolutions, that they would establish their own authority within the university and directed that the first year undergraduates who, on the following day, parade in national youth service uniforms for the purpose of staging a guard of honor to be inspected by self-imposed students leader Douglas Mwandawiro Mghanga. [sentence as heard]

Having regard that the few students who had been expelled were persistently continuing to incite other students against the established authority at the university and in the country and having gone to the extent of planning to establish their own illegal authority, it was found necessary for the vice chancellor to go to the ground where they were conducting their illegal meeting on Sunday, 10 February, to warn them to stop these activities once and for all. Instead of complying with the instructions from the vice chancellor, they resorted to violence. It was at this stage that it was found absolutely necessary for the police to intervene.

The police officer in charge of Nairobi area ordered the students to disperse peacefully in accordance with public order act, and it was only after they had defied the law order that it was necessary to disperse the illegal meeting, which had already become riotous. When the police were dispersing the crowd, the students started throwing stones. There was a commotion and stampeding, during which 65 students and 32 policemen were injured. One student, who was trampled on by other students during the commotion, subsequently died in hospital. The attorney general has already ordered that an inquest be conducted in this particular case.

The government would like to reiterate that the university must be left alone to conduct academic programs without clandestine or any other interference from wherever source.

SOMALIA

Siad Barre Addresses National People's Assembly

EA121108 Mogadishu Domestic Service in Somali 0450 GMT 12 Feb 85

[Excerpts] The president of the Somalia Democratic Republic [SDR], Challe Mohamed Siad Barre, attended the first session of the second convention of the National People's Assembly which opened yesterday at the People's Hall in Mogadishu. During the session, Challe Mohamed Ibrahim Ahmad was elected chairman of the National Assembly, Challe Mohamed Burale Ismail was elected the first deputy chairman, and Challe Mohamed Hawadle Madar was elected second deputy chairman.

The president of the SDR, who addressed the Assembly, congratulated the elected members of parliament and expressed the hope that they would discharge their national duty and their responsibility to the people faithfully. The president stated that the National People's Assembly is presently faced with the heavy responsibility of surmounting problems arising from the environment, conspiracies by the enemy against the people, and inflation.

To overcome these problems, the president said, unity, courage, and efficiency are necessary. Challe Siad went on to say that the Somali revolution is well known for its courage in facing and overcoming any problem, hence it is to take immediate steps to deal with problems existing inside and outside the country, as well as engaging in economic development, which can be achieved by greatly increasing production and the exploitation of the vast resources with which the country is endowed.

The president indicated that the political priorities of the Somali Government include the strengthening of national defense, realization of internal stability, as well as the search for and the participation in a political solution that would result in stability and peace in the Horn of Africa. On the situation in the region, Challe Siad said the Abyssinian regime which receives support and encouragement from a foreign power has made it a habit of launching provocative attacks on villages and districts in Somalia and of subjecting innocent people to suffering. The president observed that Somalia has pointed out to the international community the dangerous situation that could develop from such provocations.

In his speech, Challe Siad noted that in the light of the world economic recession which adversely affected developing countries, including the SDR, there was a need to strengthen the cooperation of the party, the government, and the National People's Assembly in order to overcome the difficult economic problems existing in the country. The president told the Assembly that a new government would be named soon. This government would base its programs on those of the Central Committee of the Somali Revolutionary Socialist Party Trade Union [as heard] in order to achieve the economic development to which the country is aspiring.

Samantar on Saudi Relations, Regional Issues

PM121037 Jeddah 'UKAZ in Arabic 6 Feb 85 p 9

[Interview with Vice President and Defense Minister Mohamed Ali Samantar by Muhammad Mahjub in Jeddah — date not given]

[Excerpts] [Mahjub] What is the purpose of your visit to the Kingdom of Saudi Arabia?

[Samantar] The purpose is to deliver a written message from Somali President Siad Barre to His Majesty King Fahd Ibn 'Abd al-'Aziz on bilateral relations. It has always been our custom to acquaint our Saudi brothers with Arab, African, and international developments. The message also deals with the situation in the Horn of Africa, particularly in Somalia. Ethiopia has recently been launching attacks on Somalia. It launched a massive attack on 20 December and another in early January. As usual, we are briefing the brother officials in the Kingdom on the situation before events occur and before Ethiopia launches a major offensive sometime in the future.

[Mahjub] How do you assess the Somali defense forces' ability to repulse any Ethiopian attack?

[Samantar] A simple comparison would show the vast difference between the Somali and Ethiopian armies. As you well know, the Soviet Union and its allies are continuously supplying the Ethiopian Army with modern weapons. The Ethiopian Army consists of 500,000 men, whereas the Somali Army is small in terms of numbers and equipment, but the Ethiopian Army cannot defeat us easily because of the Somali soldier's love for his homeland and defense of his honor. That is why the Somali Army will be able to confront any attack on Somalia. There are Ethiopian military concentrations on Somali borders. They are there for the purpose of attacking Somalia at any time.

[Mahjub] His Majesty King Fahd Ibn 'Abd al-'Aziz is scheduled to visit the United States this month. What are your comments and expectations regarding that?

[Samantar] We believe that His Majesty King Fahd's visit to the United States will be positive and in the interests of the Arab nation, the region, and the world at large.

[Mahjub] Mr Vice President, how do you view the future of Saudi-Somali relations, and how do you assess the bilateral relations at present?

[Samantar] We are very satisfied with our relations with the Saudi Kingdom, and we believe that these relations are developing daily.

[Mahjub] Could you explain to us the Soviet strategy in the region?

[Samantar] The Soviet strategy in the region is clear to everyone else. The Soviet Union is in Ethiopia and it is in control in Ethiopia. The situation is different in Somalia, where there is no pro-Soviet government. That is why the Soviet Union is always urging Ethiopia to attack Somalia to change the regime there and replace it with a pro-Soviet regime which would enable the Soviets to control the entire area, because after Somali it would control Djibouti and then Sudan. That would bring the whole region under its control or threat. We believe ourselves to be the region's first line of defense and we hope that everyone in Africa understands that.

[Mahjub] What Somali areas are now occupied by Ethiopia?

[Samantar] In 1982, Ethiopia launched a major offensive against Somalia. Its attacks are actually frequent and continual. It occupied two areas in (Dunqlub) and (Benbla). In its recent attacks of 20 December and early January, it penetrated certain areas, but we stopped its advance.

[Mahjub] How much aid is Somalia receiving from the Arab and Islamic states in this crisis?

[Samantar] We are always receiving aid from the fraternal Arab states, and in particular Saudi Arabia, of course.

[Mahjub] Do you have any agreements with the United States?

[Samantar] There are no U.S. base in Somalia but, in accordance with an agreement between Somalia and the United States as a friendly country, certain facilities are provided at the port of Berbera. Before they come to the port they contact the government and give us the projected date of their arrival, giving us time to grant the ships permission to enter and use the port. These facilities are quite different from what is being said from time to time about the presence of a U.S. base in Somalia.

[Mahjub] How are the increasing Ethiopian attacks affecting internal stability in Somalia? Some news agencies speak of opposition movements. Do you think that these movements are financed by foreign circles?

[Samantar] There are no fronts or opposition movements inside [Somalia] but there are dissidents or deviants who are in Ethiopia, and they [Ethiopians] have dealings with them there. There were two movements. We call them dissidents. One was formed in 1978 and is now on the verge of total collapse. The other was formed in 1981 and we expect it to have the same fate. They are already split from within. As for the assistance to and financing of these movements, the Soviet Union, Ethiopia, and the states allied with the Soviet Union are the sides which back them.

[Mahjub] What is your comment on Israel's evacuation of Falasha Jews to Israel?

[Samantar] We believe that the evacuation of the Falasha Jews from Ethiopia to be a very serious matter indeed for the Arab world in general. According to the statistics and information available to us, there are 120,000 Falashas in Ethiopia. Some of them are in the Ethiopian Army fighting against Somalia and Eritrea. The transfer of this enormous manpower above all adds to the Israeli enemy's strength and is against the Arab nation. Secondly, the settlement of such a large number in Arab Palestine constitutes another Zionist expansionist adventure in the Middle East. Our information says that Israel has paid Ethiopia to facilitate the evacuation of the Falashas. This strengthens the already existing relations between Ethiopia and Israel because the efforts of the Falashas in Israel and Ethiopia will bring them even closer together, and this is a danger threatening everyone, especially Palestine and Somalia.

[Mahjub] Is the danger approaching an explosive point in the Horn of Africa?

[Samantar] The danger is of course there and is growing and growing. This is one of the reasons for my current tour. The purpose of my tour is partly to acquaint the brother officials with the seriousness of the general situation so that a sound solution could be found and so that aid could be extended to Somalia to enable it to face these dangers. We also want diplomatic pressure in the face of these problems.

Radio Halgan: Rebels Kill 82, Wound 89 Soldiers

EA122104 (Clandestine) Radio Halgan in Somali to Somalia 1700 GMT 12 Feb 85

[Text] In engagements beteen the heroes of the Democratic Front for the Salvation of Somalia [DFSS] fighters of the Somali opposition and forces still loyal to Siad Barre, 82 enemy soldiers were killed and 89 wounded. The successful clashes took place on 5 February at (Buraeel) village, through which the road linking the north and south of the country passes, and on 7 February (?at) Balambale town, which is controlled by the DFSS.

Units of the 15th Gorod Division were engaged in the clashes with the confused forces of Siad Barre. The enemy forces suffered heavy losses in men and materiel. In addition to those killed and wounded, the enemy forces suffered the destruction of two APC'S, three (PG) Fiats [as heard], and ammunition and ration dumps. One hundred and fifty small arms were captured from the enemy. The fighters of the 15th Gorod Division lost one martyr killed and nine wounded.

UGANDA

Briefs

New Envoy From Rwanda — President Obote has underlined the importance of frequent contacts and dialogue as a means of expanding trade between Uganda and Rwanda. The president was this morning receiving the credentials of the new Rwandese ambassador to Uganda, Mr (Clava Kanyarikopi). Dr Obote told the ambassador there is a need for both Uganda and Rwanda to help their businessmen to transact their trade through proper channels so as to avoid smuggling along the common border. He said Ugandans want open trade with Rwanda. Ambassador (Kanyarikopi) assured the president of the Rwandese Government's determination to put an end to illegal border trade. [Excerpts] [*Kampala Domestic Service in English 1400 GMT 12 Feb 85 EA*]

CHAD

Habre Addresses Zaire-Trained Commandos in Abeche

AB112251 Ndjamena Domestic Service in French 1845 GMT 11 Feb 85

[Excerpts] The historic town of Abeche (?today) welcomed the supreme commander of the Chadian national Armed Forces and head of state, President Hissein Habre, with pomp and pageantry. The graduation ceremony of elements of the 2d Commando Battalion who were trained in Zaire was presided over by the head of state in the Ouaddai Prefecture.

It must be emphasized that the trip to Abeche is the first political visit for the head of state since 1983, when he left Ndjamena to coordinate counterattack operations against the Libyan Army. The head of state and his delegation were therefore given an enthusiastic welcome in the Ouaddai capital. This is not surprising, because it was from the town of Abeche that the national resistance against Libyan invaders was organized.

After delivering certificates to the commandos, the head of state, in a moving speech, stressed the need for our country to have an army capable of defending our fatherland, which is threatened by Libya. It is up to the FAN in the first place and the commandos in particular to show our enemies our fierce determination in rejecting slavery and humiliation, President Hissein Habre said. That is why the government of the Third Republic has made training, the acquisition of equipment, and the reorganization of the FAN one of the major priorities of the state.

[Begin Habre recording] Officers, noncommissioned officers, and soldiers of the 2d Commando Battalion: When you were leaving Chad for Zaire, some of you were wondering about this (?trip). But today, after undergoing a rigorous training, you are happy, proud, and more than ever sure of yourselves and your career. Indeed, armed with your new knowledge — theoritical and practical — you are going to tackle with competence, enthusiasm, and discipline the great and difficult task of national defense.

You know the situation in our country, half of which is occupied by the terrorist regime of Libya, our historic enemy, who threatens us with secession and does everything to divide us in order to better subjugate our people. In the face of this challenge, it is up to the Chadian national Armed Forces and you, the commandos, to show our enemies and their lackeys our fierce determination to refuse to be enslaved and humiliated.

You must know that the outcome of every struggle depends upon the moral and physical aptitude of men. A man who hesitates and is uncertain of what he does is easily frightened and is sure to meet failure in whatever he undertakes. But when a man is determined and conscious of what he does, he exudes energy, and success in his actions is guaranteed.

Young commandos of the Chadian national Armed Forces, the nucleus of this great and enterprising Army, which possess the legendary courage of your heroic ancestors, the builders of great kingdoms including that of Ouaddai [words indistinct]. We want you to demonstrate that you are the real and worthy successors to our glorious ancestors so that the FAN, with all its elements united, mobilized, and determined, will win the great battle of destiny. [end recording]

Entente Council Head of State Summit Begins

AB122225 Abidjan Domestic Service in French 1930 GMT 12 Feb 85

[Excerpt] Presidents Eyadema, Seyni Kountche, Mathieu Kerekou, Thomas Sankara, and President Houphouet-Boigny are in Yamoussoukro [Ivory Coast] for an Entente Council summit. The visitors were met personally by the head of state and an exuberant crowd. There is no precise agenda for this summit but, in addition to the talks they will be holding on problems in the subregion, the Entente Council heads of state will have to reward winners of the agricultural competition organized last year to mark the 25th anniversary of the organization.

[Begin Ali Coulibally recording] This time no one is missing at the meeting. They are all present at the Yamoussoukro meeting: Presidents Mathieu Kerekou, Seyni Kountche, Gnassingbe Eyadema, and Thomas Sankara. Though the first three have often visited Yamoussoukro, the Ivorian political capital, this is not the case for the Burkina head of state, who is touching Ivorian soil for the first time since he came into power in August 1983. It is also the first time that he has participated in an Entente Council summit, the oldest African subregional organization, which is more than a quarter of a century old.

As they normally do at least once a year, this first meeting of the year 1985 will give the heads of state the opportunity to discuss and exchange views and especially to seek together the ways and means of consolidating their solidarity, the leitmotiv of this organization. They met for several hours in camera at the head of state's residence in Yamoussoukro. At present it is difficult to know what they discussed, since no agenda was published before the Entente Council summit. [end recording]

BURKINA

Sankara Departs for Summit in Ivory Coast

AB121310 Ouagadougou Domestic Service in French 1300 GMT 12 Feb 85

[Text] Comrade Thomas Sankara, chairman of the National Council of the Revolution, left Ouagadougou this morning for Yamoussoukro, Ivory Coast. In the Ivorian capital, the president of the Faso will attend the opening of the Entente Council summit this afternoon. The summit will entirely address itself to the economic difficulties in the region and the drought affecting several countries of the region.

GHANA

Rawlings Returns From 3-Day Visit to Algeria

AB122045 Accra Domestic Service in English 1800 GMT 12 Feb 85

[Text] The chairman of the PNDC [Provisional National Defense Council], Flight Lieutenant J.J. Rawlings, returned home this afternoon after a 3-day visit to Algeria. He was met at the Kotoka International Airport by a PNDC member, Mr Justice D.F. Annan, the forces' commander, Major General Arnold Quainoo, the IGP [Inspector General of Police], Mr S.S. Omane, secretaries of state, as well as members of the diplomatic corps.

Briefing newsmen later, the special advisor to the PNDC, Captain Kojo Tsikata, said while in Algeria, the Ghana delegation held talks with its Algerian counterparts on political and economic issues. He said the main purpose of the visit was to strengthen the cordial relations which exist between Ghana and Algeria and also to review the cooperation agreements between the two countries, the general situation in Africa and the world. Capt Tsikata said the chairman also took the opportunity to visit the Algerian military academy, where he was introduced to some aspects of the training of Algerian military officers.

Dr Joe Abbey, Ghana's high commissioner to Canada and a member of National Economic Commission, said the two countries will examine areas of possible cooperation. These include wood and rubber on the part of Ghana and, from Algeria, oil and its derivatives. Algeria, he said, looks very kindly at the problems posed for Ghana, especially in oil. Dr Abbey said the Algerians are willing not just to give Ghana a loan for the rehabilitation of the timber sector, but to actually join in forming a company and exploiting the timber resources.

GUINEA-BISSAU

Vieira Comments Before Departing for Sao Tome Summit

AB121245 Dakar PANA in French 1137 GMT 12 Feb 85

[Text] Bissau, 12 Feb (ANG/PANA) — Guinea-Bissau President Joao Bernardo Vieira told GUINEA-BISSAU NEWS AGENCY, ANG, on Tuesday, prior to his departure for Sao Tome where he will attend the sixth summit of heads of state of the five African Portuguese-speaking countries, "that the harmonization of the decisions of the fifth summit held in Bissau in 1983 will be on the agenda of the deliberations."

"We will discuss economic, political, and social problems with the view to strengthening cooperation among the 'five' within the framework of the consultations existing between us since the period of struggle," Mr Vieira stated. "We will continue to fully support the liberation movements in southern Africa, notably the ANC and the SWAPO, and we will continue supporting the Fretilin (Revolutionary Front for East Timor Independence), the PLO, and the Polisario Front," the Guinea-Bissau head of state added.

IVORY COAST

Kerekou, Eyadema, Kountche Arrive for Summit

AB121320 Abidjan Domestic Service in French 1245 GMT 12 Feb 85

[Text] An Entente Council summit, which will be attended by the heads of state of the five member countries, will open this afternoon in Yamoussoukro. Ali Coulibaly, our special reporter, who has just called us, said that three heads of state have arrived in Yamoussoukro this morning. They are Presidents Mathieu

Kerekou of Benin, Gnassingbe Eyadema of Togo, and Seyni Kountche of Niger. Each of the three presidents arrived along with the best three farmers who have won the Entente Council best-farmer competition in his country. The Burkinabe head of state, Captain Thomas Sankara, is still expected in Yamoussoukro. He is due to arrive shortly, by 1300 [GMT].

Explosion Reported at Entente Talks Site

AB131225 Paris AFP in English 1213 GMT 13 Feb 85

[Text] Yamoussoukro, Ivory Coast, Feb 13 (AFP) — An explosion ripped through the bathroom of a suite at the President Hotel here Monday, the day before the rooms were due to be occupied by the Burkina Faso leader Captain Thomas Sankara, reliable sources said here today.

The sources said the blast was felt throughout the hotel. There has been no official confirmation of the report and no information was available concerning the possible cause of the reported explosion.

Capt Sankara arrived here Tuesday to participate in a summit of the five-nation Entente Council along with his counterparts from Ivory Coast, Togo, Benin and Niger.

LIBERIA

Doe Criticizes MOJA, Former PPP Members

AB121032 Monrovia Radio ELWA in English 0655 GMT 12 Feb 85

[Text] The commander in chief [CIC] and president of the Interim National Assembly, CIC Dr Samuel Kanyon Doe, has lashed out against individuals who claim to be MOJA [Movement for Justice in Africa] and former PPP [Progressive People's Party] members attempting to develop the Liberian society.

Speaking at the Executive Pavillion yesterday to mark the 28th anniversary of Armed Forces Day, Commander in Chief Doe urged the Liberian people to turn deaf ears to rumormongers who do not contribute to the development of the nation but tend to destroy it. The head of state also blamed the nation's economic problems on MOJA and former PPP members adding: The economy began to decline immediately after the 1979 rice riot in Monrovia. He said in 1980, his government employed some MOJA and former PPP members, but was constrained to dismiss them because they worked against the interest of government.

Concerning the recent mandate by the Auditing Bureau to audit Dr Sawyer and Dr Edward B. Kessely, the head of state said the government gave more than $1.2 million to Dr Sawyer for the drafting of the constitution and he, Dr Sawyer, is therefore bound to give account of the money spent. The head of state also made similar reference to Dr Edward Kessely, who chaired the Constitutional Advisory Assembly in Gbarnga, Bong County. Dr Doe then dispelled rumors that his government was getting at Dr Sawyer because of political affiliation.

MALI

Envoys Deliver Leaders' Messages to Traore

AB121249 Bamako Domestic Service in French 0700 GMT 12 Feb 85

[Text] The head of state, General Moussa Traore, yesterday received a delegation of the Organization for Coordination and Cooperation in the Control of Major Endemic Diseases in West Africa. The delegation, which was led by Ivorian Health Minister Alphonse Djedje-Mady, included the Beninese and Burkinabe health ministers. The ministers had taken part in the observances marking the 32d World Leprosy Day and of the 50th anniversary of the establishment of the Marchous Institute of Bamako. During the audience, the three ministers delivered messages of friendship from Presidents Felix Houphouet-Boigny, Mathieu Kerekou, and Thomas Sankara to President Moussa Traore.

Concerning Captain Thomas Sankara's message to the president of the Republic, the Burkinabe envoy, Major Abdoul Salam Kabore, said that President Sankara was anxious to inform Gen Moussa Traore of the progress made concerning the deliberations on the border dispute issue existing between Mali and Burkina Faso. The Burkinabe minister expressed optimism toward settling the dispute since both countries have displayed their total willingness to find a solution to the problem.

NIGER

Kountche Receives Congolese Minister, Relief Grant

AB122040 Niamey Domestic Service in French 1200 GMT 12 Feb 85

[Text] General Seyni Kountche, chairman of the Supreme Military Council and head of state, received in audience yesterday Antoine Ndinga-Oba, member of the Political Bureau of the Congolese Labor Party, minister of foreign affairs and cooperation, and bearer of a message from Denis Sassou-Nguesso, president of the People's Republic of the Congo. The Congolese envoy presented to the head of state a sum of 100 million CFA francs representing the contribution of the Congolese people toward efforts of the people of Niger to achieve self-sufficiency in food. Minister Ndinga-Oba left Niamey this morning for Abalak, where he will visit out-of-season crop (?farms) in the area.

President Kountche Receives FRG Delegation

AB121230 Niamey Domestic Service in French 0600 GMT 12 Feb 85

[Text] The FRG parliamentary state secretary for defense, Peter-Kurt Wuerrzbach, who has been in our country since Sunday, was received yesterday in audience by the head of state, General Seyni Kountche. After the talks, the FRG official stated that he and President Kountche examined several issues relating to the national situation, especially on the food situation in our country.

In this connection, he said the FRG will provide assistance to the government and people of Niger, adding that cross-country vehicles will be sent to Niger for the free distribution of food items to the most underprivileged districts. He also said that for the next 3 years sizeable credits will be made available to our country in order to enable it to cope with some security problems. The German parliamentary state secretary for defense will leave Niamey today for Lome.

NIGERIA

Idiagbon on IMF Loan, Detained Canadians

AB122320 Lagos Domestic Service in English 2100 GMT 12 Feb 85

[Text] The Federal Military Government has restated its determination not to do anything to tarnish the good relationship it has with any friendly country. The chief of staff, Supreme Headquarters, Major General Tunde Idiagbon, made the remark today at Dodan Barracks while exchanging views with the Canadian high commissioner in Nigeria, Mr Garrett Lambert. The chief of staff stated that Nigeria was prepared to do genuine business with friendly countries but warned that such relationships must be in her national interest.

On the International Monetary Fund loan, Gen Idiagbon restated the government's stand not to accept the conditions laid down by the Fund. He, however, told the high commissioner that the government would continue to negotiate until the IMF agreed with Nigeria's terms.

On the detention of two Canadians by the security agents, the chief of staff told the envoy that investigation into the matter was still on and that at the end of the exercise, anyone found wanting would be arraigned before the appropriate tribunal.

The Canadian high commissioner had earlier commended the Federal Government for its efforts in revamping the nation's economy and Nigeria's role in international politics. Mr Lambert expressed the hope that the cordial relations, especially in trade between his country and Nigeria, would continue.

Congolese Minister Meets Buhari, Discusses Chad

AB121018 Lagos NAN in English 1002 GMT 12 Feb 85

[Text] Lagos, Feb. 11 (NAN) — The Congolese foreign affairs and cooperation minister, Mr Antoine Ndinga-Oba, said in Lagos today that his country would host another peace meeting to solve the Chadian conflict only when there were positive initiatives for peace by the warring factions.

Speaking to newsmen shortly after delivering a special message from his country's president, to the head of state, Maj Gen Muhammadu Buhari, the foreign minister said that unless there was such a move, any attempt at negotiating peace would be frustrated. Mr Ndinga-Oba, whose country hosted a peace meeting for the warring factions in Chad just before the OAU summit in Addis Ababa in November last year, said that he was in Nigeria for consultations on the Chadian problem. He also said that Nigeria's influential position in the OAU made its opinion on the Chadian issue and other African problems very important.

The minister said he would also seek the opinion of President Seyni Kountche of Niger and the OAU chairman, President Julius Nyerere, on the same issue.

In his message, the Congolese president, Mr Denis Sassou-Nguesso, briefed Maj Gen Buhari on his country's efforts at peace in Chad as well as issues affecting southern Africa and problems of drought and famine in the continent. Maj Gen Buhari said that he welcomed such consultations on major issues affecting the continent.

The foreign minister has since left Nigeria.

ANGOLA

Guinea Bissau, Cape Verde Presidents Visit

MB121412 Luanda Domestic Service in Portuguese 1200 GMT 12 Feb 85

[Excerpt] Joao Bernardo Vieira and Aristides Pereira, the presidents of Guinea Bissau and Cape Verde respectively, have been in Luanda since this morning en route to the Democratic Republic of Sao Tome and Principe, where together with Presidents Jose Eduardo dos Santos of Angola, Samora Machel of Mozambique, and Manuel Pinto da Costa of Sao Tome and Principe, the two statesmen will take part in a summit meeting of the five Portuguese-speaking African countries in Sao Tome and Principe on 14 and 15 February.

According to ANGOP, conditions are already set for the summit meeting, aimed at strengthening multilateral cooperation among the five and examining present African and international problems. Presently meeting in Sao Tome are ministers from the five Portuguese-speaking African countries who are preparing for the summit of the heads of state.

MADAGASCAR

Joint Commission Meeting With Italy Opens

MB121352 Antananarivo Domestic Service in French 1030 GMT 12 Feb 85

[Excerpts] He who goes slowly, goes assuredly. This dictum applies to Italian-Malagasy cooperation, which, although underway for more than 20 years, has only now seen its first meeting take place, thanks to the talks held between Italian President Sandro Pertini and President Didier Ratsiraka in Rome in 1984.

These are excerpts of Minister Bemananjara's inaugural speech during the opening ceremony of the first meeting of the Italian-Malagasy Joint Commission.

[Begin Bemananjara recording] The Italian-Malagasy Joint Commission was formed 20 years ago, but those accords have remained lethargic so far. However, in the wake of President Didier Ratsiraka's brief visit to Rome in 1984, real Italian-Malagasy cooperation resurfaced. That official working visit — that encounter between His Excellency Mr Pertini and His Excellency Mr Didier Ratsiraka — permitted the lifting of the veil which fell over Italian-Malagasy cooperation. [end recording]

Despite profound lethargy in Italian-Malagasy cooperation, work has nonetheless been carried out during the last 20 years, such as the construction of a shoe factory and improving [words indistinct] at Antseranana, a cement factory, the factories for the production of coffee at Toamasina and (?Amban), and a foodstuff factory in Toamasina. Minister Bemananjara invited the participants to hold the talks with the interests of both countries in mind.

[Begin Bemananjara recording] The Italian-Malagasy Joint Commission is convening today after a pause of 20 years. But it is never too late. This meeting will offer both partners the possibility of submitting their hopes, potential, and cooperation objectives, for the good of the peoples of both countries. I sincerely hope that it will lead to the intensification of our cooperation and efforts in the economic, social, cultural, and scientific fields, with the aim of improving complementarity, efficiency, and [words indistinct]. It is within this spirit that our cooperation can develop fully and thus serve the good of our respective peoples. The battle for development must be continued and won, along the path to peace [words indistinct]. I thank you for your attention, and I declare this first Italian-Malagasy Joint Commission Meeting open. [end recording]

After this speech, and still within the context of Italian- Malagasy cooperation, Mr (Bruno Parti), the Italian under secretary of state for foreign affairs, who heads the Italian delegation, clearly depicted the spirit guiding the proceedings. A general belief among the Italian people that there should be better cooperation among the peoples has always guided us in our relationship with other peoples.

MOZAMBIQUE

Delegates at Sao Tome Meeting on Rebel Aid, Cease-Fire

Portuguese Aid to Renamo

LD111036 Lisbon Domestic Service in Portuguese 0900 GMT 11 Feb 85

[Text] Jacinto Veloso, Mozambique minister in the Presidency for economic affairs, has given an interview to Portuguese journalists of ANOP and Radio Comercial [commercial channel of the Portuguese state radio]. In the interview, the Mozambique minister in the Presidency for economic affairs accused the Portuguese component of Renamo of replacing South Africa in the onslaught against Mozambique. He said that the Portuguese component of Renamo is the force which has been providing continuing backing to that antigovernment movement after the signing of the Nkomati Accord.

Jacinto Veloso, who is heading the Mozambican delegation in Sao Tome and Principe at the preparatory meeting for the coming fifth summit of heads of state of the Portuguese-speaking African countries [Guinea-Bissau, Cape Verde, Sao Tome and Principe, Angola, and Mozambique] added that the Portuguese component of Renamo includes former property owners, industrialists, and traders who have been financing Renamo's activities with the aim of destabilizing the political situation in the country, and wishing to call into question the Lusaka Agreement of 1974 — signed between Frelimo and the Portuguese Government.

It is said, Jacinto Veloso went on, that Manuel Bulhosa [a Portuguese industrialist] is behind the financing of that movement.

Until the Nkomati Accord was signed, Veloso explained, the main backer of Renamo was South Africa. After the agreement, South Africa's role was taken over by the so-called Portuguese component of Renamo.

There are, however, other organizations in various countries backing political destabilization in Mozambique, the Mozambique minister said. He specifically named Malawi, as well as the Republic of the Comoros, as centers of support for Renamo, and accused of involvement a number of Islamic countries, for political and religious reasons.

With regard to his accusations against the Portuguese component of Renamo, Jacinto Veloso stressed, however, that it consisted of Portuguese citizens who are not being backed by any state organizations in Portugal.

Islamic Help for Rebels

LD111401 Lisbon International Service in Portuguese 1200 GMT 11 Feb 85

[Excerpts] In an interview with Radio Comercial and the Portuguese news agency ANOP, the Mozambique minister in the Presidency for economic affairs, Jacinto Veloso, said that the Portuguese component of Renamo is the force which has been providing continued backing to that rebel movement since the signing of the Nkomati Accord.

Jacinto Veloso also named other backers of Renamo such as organizations in Malawi and the Comoros Republic, and accused the Islamic countries of involvement. The latter, Jacinto Veloso went on, are today the major financing source of Renamo.

Jacinto Veloso, one of President Samora Machel's closest associates, further said that the support of Islamic countries for the Renamo rebels is given for religious reasons, because of this idea that there is religious persecution in Mozambique, particularly directed against the Muslims.

I think that this idea may have spread, Veloso added, due to the fact that there were a few cases of Muslim clergy in Mozambique having been harassed and some places of worship desecrated, against all the instructions and the line followed by the Mozambique Government.

Other Muslim countries, Veloso went on, are backing Renamo because after independence it was said that Mozambique was a base of the Soviet Union and of international communism and, therefore, a target to be eliminated. The facts, the Mozambique minister said, prove how false this idea is.

Jacinto Veloso also mentioned in his interview the improvement in Mozambique's relations with the United States and the support given by the United States to his country.

Cease-Fire Rumors Denied

MB090857 Maputo Domestic Service in Portuguese 0700 GMT 9 Feb 85

[Text] In Sao Tome yesterday, Pedro Comissario, director of the Africa and Middle East division in the Ministry of Foreign Affairs, denied rumors that Mozambique had signed a ceace-fire agreement on 8 October of last year.

Pedro Comissario, who is part of the Mozambican delegation to the ministerial conference of the five Portuguese-speaking African countries, stressed that the only accord that our country had signed to secure peace in southern Africa was the Nkomati Accord. He said the event that took place in October was the 3 October declaration, mediated by South Africa.

Pedro Comissario also said that despite this, the continuous investigations that Mozambique has been making have enabled it to prove that the violations of the Nkomati Accord have been coming from South Africa.

SOUTH AFRICA

R.F. Botha Confirms Holding Talks With Savimbi

MB121920 Johannesburg Domestic Service in English 1900 GMT 12 Feb 85

[Text] The American ambassador to South Africa has declined to comment on reports that the American assistant secretary of state for African affairs, Dr Chester Crocker, has met the UNITA leader in Angola, Dr Jonas Savimbi, in Cape Town. A spokesman said there was periodic contact between the American Government and the UNITA movement.

On the other hand, the South African minister of foreign affairs, Mr Pik Botha, has confirmed that he held talks with Dr Savimbi in Cape Town today.

Our political news staff reports, however, that a meeting between Dr Crocker and Dr Savimbi was quite possible, although no official confirmation could be obtained.

SWAZILAND

Finance Minister Delivers Budget Speech

MB130827 Mbabane Television Service in English 1630 GMT 12 Feb 85

[Text] The minister for finance, Mr Barnabas Dlamini, today painted a bleak future of the country's economy following two serious droughts in 1982 and 1983 and the devastating Cyclone Domoina last year. Delivering his budget speech in Parliament this afternoon, Mr Dlamini also attacked overexpenditure by government, and said that it contributed much to the country's deficit. He said that his ministry would apply stricter and tighter controls on financial matters.

[Begin Dlamini recording] I have painted a very bleak picture of the state of the economy. Regrettably, I can report no significant improvement in our economic situation this year. While, as was once the practice, I am tabling a broad review of the economy as a separate document, I should like to briefly sketch the economic background against which this budget been framed and to draw out the salient points of the strategy, which is my response to it.

In 1981, Swaziland entered into an era of great economic difficulty due to the combined effect of world recesson, the droughts of 1982 and 1983, a reduction in private and public sector investment, and, finally, the devastation of Cyclone Domoina last year. Neglible real growth was experienced from 1981 to 1983, and indicators for 1984 suggest that once again real growth was minimal. Paid employment fell in 1982 and 1983. Combined with an estimated population growth rate of 3.4 percent per annum, these trends mean falling per capita income and an increasingly severe unemployment problem. From the point of view of public finance, these difficulties mean both that less revenue is available for government to make a contribution to the economy, and at the same time that government's contribution is more sorely needed.

This dilemma has forced the government to considerable deficits over the last 4 years. However, in Swaziland's very open economy the main impact of budget deficits, even when there is considerable slack in the economy, is not on national income and employment, but rather on balance of payments, so that in the long run substantial deficit financing is not a sustainable strateg — I am determined that government shall play its part in the reconstruction and revitalization of our economy, but I must stress the fact that this must be done within the limited resources available to us. I therefore cannot overemphasize the importance of financial control.

Ladies and gentlemen, you will recall that my predecessors expressed great concern over the recurring problem of overspending and over the loss of respect of departmental heads for the authorization of the House of Assembly to incur expenditure. I am happy to report that some progress has been achieved in this respect, and that with the payment of the outstanding accounts of government, we are now ready to begin with a clean slate. I shall comment further on these two points when I discuss the last and current years' budgets. At this stage, I merely wish to state that I will not allow a return to former practices of overspending. To this end, I shall shortly be laying before Parliament proposals for a revision of the finance and audit act, which will impose tighter financial control and provide for stricter disciplinary action to be taken against any person found guilty of overexpenditure.

I regret to say that I can report no similar general improvement in the performance of public enterprises, which through subventions, government loans, and government guarantees constitute another major influence on public finance. In the past, government has granted such subventions, loans, and guarantees on undefined terms and with no clear-cut policy. This cannot be allowed to continue. In future, no assistance will be given without close scrutiny of the organization's books and performance, and without remedial action being taken if this proves necessary. I therefore intend to set up a unit within my ministry which will monitor the performance of public enterprises, and which will advise on all requests for financial assistance, and review them from time to time. The guiding principle will be that these organizations should be self-sufficient, with appropriate modifications in those cases where the organization is expected to perform functions which are not commercially viable. [end recording]

ZAMBIA

Kaunda Comments on Mideast, African Problems

NC130614 Cairo MENA in Arabic 2240 GMT 12 Feb 85

[Text] Cairo, 12 Feb (MENA) — Zambian President Kenneth Kaunda has called for the establishment of a Palestinian state and for the return of Jerusalem and all other Arab land occupied by Israel. In this respect, he appealed to the United States to put pressure on Israel.

Kaunda said his country strongly supports President Husni Mubarak's steps and cooperation with Jordan's King Husayn for the sake of resolving the Middle East problem.

He added: We praise the latest step taken by PLO Chairman Yasir 'Arafat. We believe it is in the right direction, and hope that the PLO, under 'Arafat's leadership, will not miss this opportunity to work with President Mubarak and King Husayn so that the Palestinians may have their own homeland. This is very important.

As for Egyptian-Arab relations, President Kaunda had this to say in an interview to be published in tomorrow's edition of *AL-AHRAM*: We call on all Arab countries to recognize Egypt's role in the Middle East. We also call on them to forget the past and to stand hand-in-hand with Egypt to resolve problems, as Egypt has a major role to play in resolving those in the Middle East.

On the situation in Africa, the Zambian president, who concluded a 3-day visit to the Arab Republic of Egypt yesterday, asked the United States and the West to impose economic sanctions on South Africa or to put pressure on it in order to effect a comparative change in the deteriorating situation in South Africa. A second purpose of these measures would be to secure the release of the Reverend Nelson Mandela, who is leading the liberation movement there. This would be a first step toward an improvement. President Kaunda warned that ignoring this currently available option will lead to the eruption of a terrible revolution.

President Kaunda also called on the United States to start a dialogue with the PLO and the ANC. He expressed his belief that President Ronald Reagan's administration can do this.